

What is Adjective

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An adjective is a word which modifies a noun or pronoun by adding something. It is used to describe a noun or a pronoun and tells about them.

Examples:

- Rana Pratap was a great warrior.
- Serena is a good girl.

Adjective of Quality

When an adjective describes the quality of someone or something, it is called the Adjective of Quality. For example:

- Tulip is a beautiful flower.
- Ramu is an honest boy.
- Darjeeling is a nice place.
- The old man carried a heavy bag.

Demonstrative Adjectives

When an adjective points to a particular person or thing, it is called as the Demonstrative Adjective. For example:

- This car is mine, that car is yours.
- These mangoes are ripe, those mangoes are raw.

Adjective of Number

When an adjective describes the definite number or indefinite of person or thing or in what order they stand, it is known as the Adjective of Number.

Examples:

- December is the last month of the year.
- I bought two dresses for Diwali.

All these adjectives “last, two, many and all” describe the number of persons or things or in what order they occur. Hence they are the Adjectives of Number. The adjectives two, five, thirty thousand show a definite number; the adjectives first, last, second show a definite order in which something or someone stands. Hence they are Definite Numeral Adjectives. The adjectives some, many, several, most, all, no do not denote the exact number. Hence they are called Indefinite Numeral Adjectives.

Adjective of Quantity

When an adjective describes the quantity of a thing or person, it is known as the adjective of quantity.

Examples:

- One should have sufficient water every day.
- He had enough rice for lunch.

Note: The adjective of quantity denotes the amount of something that cannot be counted.

Interrogative Adjective

Interrogative Adjectives, are used before nouns to ask questions.

Examples:

- What colour is your bike?
- Which train goes to Bangalore from here?

Note: An interrogative adjective will always come before a noun.

Possessive Adjective

Adjectives of possession signify by telling whose. It means, belonging to whom.

Examples:

- Rajiv is polishing his shoes.
- Invite your friends for the party.

Comparison of Adjective

Examples of comparison of adjective:

- These mangoes are sweet.
- Those mangoes are sweeter than these.
- This mango is the sweetest of all the mangoes.

In sentence 1, sweet is the adjective in its simple form. Hence it is said to be in the Positive Degree.

In sentence 2, sweeter is the adjective denoting a higher degree of the quality than the positive.

Hence it is said to be in the Comparative Degree.

In sentence 3, sweetest is the adjective denoting the highest degree of the quality. Hence it is said to be in the Superlative Degree.

Formation of Comparative and Superlative Degrees:

(i) Most adjectives form their Comparative degree by adding “er” and the Superlative by adding “est” to the Positive, as:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
rich	richer	richest
strong	stronger	strongest
weak	weaker	weakest
warm	warmer	warmest
small	smaller	smallest
ugly	uglier	ugliest

(ii) When the positive ends in e, only ‘r’ is added to the Comparative and ‘st’ to the Superlative:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
big	bigger	biggest
fat	fatter	fattest
hot	hotter	hottest
sad	sadder	saddest
thin	thinner	thinnest
wet	wetter	wettest

(iv) When the positive ends in “y” preceded by a consonant, the “y” is changed into “i” and “er” is added to the Comparative and “est” to the Superlative:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
happy	happier	happiest
heavy	heavier	heaviest
wealthy	wealthier	wealthiest
healthy	healthier	healthiest
easy	easier	easiest
merry	merrier	merriest

(v) Some Adjectives form the Comparative by using more with the Positive and the Superlative by using most with the Positive.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
proper	more proper	most proper
learned	more learned	most learned
difficult	more difficult	most difficult
splendid	more splendid	most splendid
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
useful	more useful	most useful

Note: We add less in place of more and least in place of most when we compare them in the reverse way.

(vi) Some Adjectives are compared irregularly i.e., their Comparatives and Superlatives are not formed from the Positives.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
well	better	best
bad	worse	worst
ill	worse	worst
little	less	least
much	more	most