

ADJECTIVES

An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun. Specifically, an adjective can describe the quantity, opinion, size, age, color, shape, origin, material, specificity, and purpose of something. These descriptive words help us to clearly visualize what someone is talking about, whether in a day-to-day conversation or in a book.

Here are a couple of example sentences that contain simple adjectives.

The brown squirrel scampered up the tall tree.

Three people just sat at the wooden table.

In the first sentence, the adjectives *brown* and *tall* are describing color and size, and in the second sentence, the adjectives *three* and *wooden* are describing number and material. Articles (*a*, *an*, and *the*) are also adjectives, because they describe whether a noun is specific or non-specific.

COORDINATE AND COMPOUND ADJECTIVES

When two or more adjectives are being used to describe a noun, they are known as **coordinate adjectives**. Coordinate adjectives should be separated by a comma or the word *and*, as seen in the following sentences:

What a thoughtful and generous gift!

Rufus is a happy, energetic dog.

When a single adjective is made of multiple words, it is known as a **compound adjective**. Compound adjectives require a hyphen, as seen in the example sentences below:

The six-page essay is due tomorrow.

Kim is a well-known biologist from Nevada.

LIST OF ADJECTIVES

able	distressed	grotesque	lucky
abrupt	disturbed	grubby	massive
acidic	dizzy	grumpy	mysterious
adorable	early	handsome	narrow
adventurous	eager	happy	nasty
aggressive	easy	hard	obedient
agitated	effortless	harebrained	outrageous
alert	exasperated	healthy	panicky
aloof	excited	helpful	perfect
bad	exhilarated	helpless	perplexed
bashful	extensive	high	quizzical
best	exuberant	hollow	radiant
bored	foolish	homely	serene
brave	frantic	hungry	teeny
bright	free	hurt	tender
calm	fresh	icy	tense
certain	friendly	ideal	terrible
clear	frightened	immense	tricky
colossal	frothy	impressionable	troubled
condescending	frugal	intrigued	unsightly
confused	frustrating	irate	upset
cooperative	funny	jaded	victorious
corny	fuzzy	jovial	warm
costly	gaudy	keen	white
courageous	glorious	large	whole
cruel	good	lazy	wicked
dazzling	gorgeous	livid	yellow
despicable	graceful	lonely	young
determined	greasy	long	yummy
different	great	loose	zany
dilapidated	grieving	lovely	zealous
diminutive	gritty	low	zippy