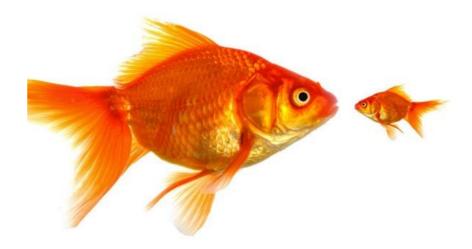
# <u>Adjective</u>

An adjective is a word which describes or gives more information about a noun or pronoun.

# Adjective expresses the property of a substance and presupposes relation to some noun

- Big and small fish
- Orange fish
- Beautiful fish



### **Functions in the sentence**

# Functions of an attribute

When an adjective is placed before its noun, it is used attributively.

The green bush is over there.

The tall boy is walking in the park.

[Attributive]

#### Functions of predicative

When it follows a <u>linking verb</u>, it is used predicatively.

The bush is green.

The boy is tall.

[Predicative]

# Functions of postpositive

Sometimes an adjective occurs immediately after a noun.

Postposition is obligatory, when the adjective modifies a pronoun:

something useful everyone present those responsible

# **Classification of adjectives**

#### Relative

the direct relation of the substance to some other substance.

- wood- a wooden stick
- history- a historical event

No comparison

#### **Qualitative**

various qualities of substances which admit of a quantitative estimation

#### We can compare them

*a hearty* welcome — <u>not</u> *a very* hearty welcome

But no comparison: blind, dead e.t.c.

# **Adjectives**

#### Gradable

Some qualities can vary in intensity or "grade"

for example: rather hot, hot, very hot; hot, hotter, the hottest

#### Non-gradable

Other qualities cannot vary in intensity or grade because they are:

extremes (for example: freezing)

absolutes (for example: dead)

classifying (for example: *nuclear*)

# Two kinds of adjectives:

#### Gradable:

You can be *very cold* or *a bit cold*.

Gradable adjectives show that something can have different degrees.

#### Non-gradable:

You can **be married or not**.

You can't be very married or a bit married. Non-gradable adjectives do not have different degrees.





# boiling

°C 100 **boiling** is con-gradable

extremely hot very hot hot rather hot fairly hot

hot and cold are gradable

fairly cold rather cold cold very cold extremely cold

freezing is non-gradable

freezing

0

# The nounal forms of adjectives (adjectivids) fall into two main grammatical subgroups:

- pluralia tantum (the English, the rich, the unemployed, the uninitiated, etc.)- sets of people (personal multitudes)
- singularia tantum (the invisible, the abstract, the tangible, etc.).- abstract ideas of various types and connotations.

# The synthetical forms of comparison

positive degree

The boy is strong

comparative degree

·He is stronger than that boy

superlative degree

·He is the strongest boy

# The analytical forms of comparison. Auxiliaries more and most.

- two-syllable words with the stress on the first syllable ending in other grapho-phonemic complexes than -er, -y, -le, -ow or words of more than two-syllable composition
- positive degree The room is beautiful
- comparative degree This room is more beautiful than another
- superlative degree This room is <u>the</u> most beautiful

*Most*-combination can take *the indefinite article*, meaning "very"

- It was a most dangerous trip (elative meaning)
- As for me it was the most dangerous trip in my life (superlative meaning)

# Auxiliaries less and least.

Negative degree, semantically analogous to combinations of *more/most* 

- positive degree The room is beautiful
- comparative degree This room is less beautiful than another
- superlative degree This room is the least beautiful, it is ugly

# **Irregular comparisons**

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bad	Worse	Worst
Good	Better	Best
ar (place & time)	Further	Furthest
Far (place)	Farther	Farthest
Old (people)	Elder	Eldest
Little (amount)	Less	Least
Late (order)	Latter	Last