

**Adjective**

**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 linking verb, 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 — not a very hearty welcome*

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

# Adjectives

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graph TD; A[Adjectives] --> B[Gradable]; A --> C[Non-gradable]
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## ***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.







**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 synthetic 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 **the most** beautiful*

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

- It was **a most** dangerous trip (relative 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

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