

# Word Order of Adjectives



Jack is an interesting, young man.  
He loves to travel to unusual places.  
He is going to visit ancient, South  
American ruins.

A noun is usually modified by one or two **adjectives**, although sometimes there are three or even more (but that is rare).



Jack is an **interesting, young** man.  
He loves to travel to **unusual** places.  
He is going to visit **ancient, South American** ruins.

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**Adjectives** can be classified into **six** major categories based upon what aspect of the noun they are describing.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
handsome delicious unusual exciting	short tall small tiny	newborn young old ancient	blue green dark red striped	Greek Korean Mexican European	gold silver metal glass

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**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

Jack is an **interesting, young** man.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
interesting		young			

**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

Jack is an **interesting**, **young** man.  
He loves to travel to **unusual** places.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
interesting unusual		young			

**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

Jack is an **interesting, young** man.

He loves to travel to **unusual** places.

He is going to visit **ancient, South American** ruins.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
interesting unusual		young  ancient		South American	

**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

He brought her flowers in a **small, pink, glass** vase.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
	small		pink		glass

**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

He brought her flowers in a **small, pink, glass** vase.  
The flowers are **beautiful, red, Ecuadorian** roses.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
beautiful	small		pink red	Ecuadorian	glass



**Adjectives** usually follow the order from category 1 (opinion) to category 6 (material).

He brought her flowers in a **small, pink, glass** vase.

The flowers are **beautiful, red, Ecuadorian** roses.

The vase was copied from a **lovely, old, Italian** design.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
beautiful lovely	small	old	pink red	Ecuadorian Italian	glass

It is unusual to find a long list of **adjectives** describing one noun, but it is possible.

She found a **rare, tiny, ancient, grey, Egyptian, metal** coin.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
rare	small	ancient	grey	Egyptian	metal

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It is unusual to find a long list of **adjectives** describing one noun, but it is possible.

They found an **adorable, little, newborn, white, French** poodle at the animal shelter.

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
adorable	little	newborn	white	French	

## Word Order of Adjectives

Click on the best adjective to complete the sentence.

It was a beautiful, yellow, \_\_\_\_\_ flower.

**incorrect**

**wonderful**

**incorrect**

**new**

**correct**

**paper**

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
beautiful wonderful		new	yellow		paper

## Word Order of Adjectives

Click on the best adjective to complete this sentence.

He is a charming young \_\_\_\_\_ musician.

**correct**

**Brazilian**

**incorrect**

**talented**

**incorrect**

**teenaged**

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
charming talented		young teenaged		Brazilian	

## Word Order of Adjectives

Click on the best adjective to complete this sentence.

Everyone should eat lots of fresh \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables.

**incorrect**

**delicious**

**correct**

**green**

**incorrect**

**large**

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
delicious	large	fresh	green		

## Word Order of Adjectives

Click on the best adjective to complete this sentence.

That lovely blue \_\_\_\_\_ doll is for my sister.

**incorrect**

**funny**

**correct**

**cotton**

**incorrect**

**large**

1	2	3	4	5	6
OPINION	SIZE	AGE	COLOR	NATIONALITY	MATERIAL
lovely funny	large		blue		cotton

# Word Order of Adjectives

The End

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