

## **ADJECTIVES AND THEIR TYPES**

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**Annotation** This article provides a comprehensive overview of adjectives and their various types. It explores the role of adjectives in language, their definitions, and how they enhance our ability to describe and express ourselves. By examining the different types of adjectives, including descriptive, demonstrative, quantitative, and possessive, this article aims to deepen our understanding of the fundamental building blocks of language. The introduction sets the stage by highlighting the significance of adjectives in language. It explains that adjectives are words used to describe or modify nouns, providing more information about their qualities, quantities, or states. The author emphasizes that adjectives play a crucial role in language by enabling us to express ourselves more precisely and vividly. **Definition and Function of Adjectives:** In this section, the article delves into the definition and function of adjectives. It explains that adjectives can be single words or phrases that provide additional details about nouns. They often precede the noun they modify, but can also appear after linking verbs.

**Key words:** **What is** Adjectives, Types of adjectives, Descriptive adjectives, Demonstrative adjectives, Quantitative adjectives, Possessive adjectives, Nominal adjectives, Denominal adjectives, Adjective definitions, Adjective functions, Adjective categories, Adjective examples

According to their meaning and grammatical characteristics adjectives fall under two classes: (1) **qualitative** adjectives, (2) **relative** adjectives.

1. **Qualitative adjectives** denote qualities of a substance directly, not through its relation to another substance, as size, shape, colour, physical and mental qualities, qualities of general estimation: *little, large, high, soft, hard, warm, white, blue, pink, strong, bold, beautiful, important, necessary*, etc.

2. **Relative adjectives** denote qualities of a substance through their relation to materials (*silken, woollen, wooden*), to place (*Italian, Asian*), to time (*monthly, weekly*), to some action (*preparatory, rotatory*).

Grammatical characteristics of qualitative adjectives.

1. Most qualitative adjectives have degrees of comparison:

big bigger (the) biggest

interesting more interesting (the) most interesting

Some qualitative adjectives such as *greenish, darkish, incurable, unsuitable, chief, principal*, have no degrees of comparison.

2. They have certain typical suffixes, such as *-ful, -less, -ous, -ent, -able, -y, -ish*: *careful, careless, dangerous, convenient, comfortable, silvery, watery, whitish, shortish*.

2. From most of them adverbs can be formed by the suffix *-ly*:

graceful — gracefully ■ gay — gaily

4. Most qualitative adjectives can be used as attributes and predicatives.

How lovely the **little** river is, with its **dark**, changing wavelets!

(Eliot) (ATTRIBUTES)

The **young** man was introduced, and they sat down at the table.

(Aldington) (ATTRIBUTE)

But you're nearly as **old**. as I am! (Aldington) (predicative) The Hartlys thought he was '**rich**'. George Augustus was so very **comfortable** ... that he too really thought he was **rich**!

(Aldington) (PREDICATIVES) Grammatical characteristics of relative adjectives.

1. Relative adjectives have no degrees of comparison.
2. They do not form adverbs with the suffix *-ly*.
3. They have certain typical suffixes, such as *-en, -an, -ist, -ic, -ical*: *wooden, Italian, socialist, synthetic, analytical*.

*Italian, socialist, synthetic, analytical*.

4. Relative adjectives are chiefly used as attributes.

... she was a fair example of the middle **American** class...

(Dreiser) (attribute)

She had noticed a pretty **wooden** chain upon Gretel's neck.

(Dodge) (attribute)

"Certainly," answered Hilda, looking kindly into the two earnest faces, and wishing from her heart that she had not spent so much of her **monthly** allowance for lace and finery. (Dodge)

(ATTRIBUTE)

The morning was **windy** and sharp. (Saxton) (predicative»

It must be pointed out that no hard and fast line of demarcation exists between relative and qualitative adjectives. Compare: *silken thread* (relative adjective), but *silken hair* (qualitative adjective).

Substantivized adjectives.

Substantivized adjectives have acquired some or all of the characteristics of the noun, but their adjectival origin is still generally felt.

Substantivized adjectives are divided into wholly substantivized and partially substantivized adjectives.

Wholly substantivized adjectives have all the characteristics of nouns, namely the plural form, the genitive case; they are associated

with articles, i. e. they have become nouns: *a native, the natives, a native's hut*.

Some wholly substantivized adjectives have only the plural form: *eatables, valuables, ancients, greens*.

Partially substantivized adjectives acquire only some of the characteristics of the noun; they are used with the definite article. Partially substantivized adjectives denote a whole class: *the rich, the poor, the unemployed*. They may also denote abstract notions: *the good, the evil, the beautiful, the singular, the plural*.

Substantivized adjectives denoting nationalities fall under wholly and partially substantivized adjectives.

Wholly substantivized adjectives are: *a Russian —Russians, a German —Germans*.

Partially substantivized adjectives are: *the English, the French, the Chinese*.

Adjectives are words that are used to modify or describe nouns or pronouns. They provide information about the quality, quantity, size, color, or other characteristics of the nouns or pronouns they modify. There are several types of adjectives:

1. Descriptive adjectives: These adjectives describe the characteristics or qualities of a noun. For example, in the phrase "beautiful flowers," the word "beautiful" is a descriptive adjective.

2. Quantitative adjectives: These adjectives indicate the quantity or amount of a noun. Examples include "many," "few," "several," "some," and "all."

3. Demonstrative adjectives: These adjectives point out specific nouns and indicate whether they are near or far in distance. Examples include "this," "that," "these," and "those."

4. Possessive adjectives: These adjectives show possession or ownership. Examples include "my," "your," "his," "her," "its," "our," and "their."

5. Interrogative adjectives: These adjectives are used to ask questions about a noun. Examples include "which," "what," and "whose."

6. Indefinite adjectives: These adjectives refer to non-specific or unspecified nouns. Examples include "some," "any," "several," and "many."

7. Proper adjectives: These adjectives are derived from proper nouns and are used to describe specific people, places, or things. For example, "American," "Chinese," or "Shakespearean" are proper adjectives.

Adjectives play an important role in making language more colorful and descriptive, and they are essential for providing details and nuances in communication. Adjectives are words that modify or describe nouns or pronouns, providing more information about their qualities, quantities, or states. They play a crucial role in language by enabling us to express ourselves more precisely and vividly. Here is a breakdown of the different types of adjectives:

**Descriptive Adjectives:** These adjectives describe the qualities or characteristics of nouns. Examples include "beautiful," "tall," and "intelligent".

**Demonstrative Adjectives:** Demonstrative adjectives indicate the proximity of the noun to the speaker or listener. Common examples include "this," "that," "these," and "those".

**Quantitative Adjectives:** Quantitative adjectives provide information about the quantity or number of nouns. Examples include "few," "many," "several," and "all".

**Possessive Adjectives:** Possessive adjectives indicate ownership or possession. They include "my," "your," "his," "her," "our," and "their".

**Comparative Adjectives:** Comparative adjectives are used to compare two or more nouns. They often end in "-er" or use the words "more" or "less." Examples include "bigger," "more beautiful," and "less intelligent".

**Superlative Adjectives:** Superlative adjectives are used to compare three or more nouns, indicating the highest degree of a quality. They often end in "-est" or use the words "most" or "least." Examples include "biggest," "most beautiful," and "least intelligent".

**Proper Adjectives:** Proper adjectives are derived from proper nouns and refer to specific people, places, or things. Examples include "American," "Italian," and "Shakespearean".

**Interrogative Adjectives:** Interrogative adjectives are used to ask questions about nouns. Examples include "which," "what," and "whose".

**Compound Adjectives:** Compound adjectives are formed by combining two or more words to describe a noun. Examples include "blue-eyed," "high-pitched," and "well-known".

Exclamatory Adjectives: Exclamatory adjectives express strong emotions or surprise. Examples include "amazing," "incredible," and "fantastic". It's important to note that adjectives can also be categorized based on their forms, such as positive, comparative, and superlative forms. Additionally, adjectives can be further classified based on their functions and usage in sentences.

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