



# Adjectives and Adverbs



**Objective: Identify adjectives and adverbs, and use them correctly.**

**Adverbs:** are words that describe or modify *verbs* and sometimes *adjectives* and *other adverbs*. They often answer the questions HOW, WHERE, or WHEN.

**Example:**

- Even after one year of lessons, Luke plays the piano **badly**.

**Badly** is an adverb that modifies the verb *play* and tells us how Luke plays the piano.

- The class is **very** difficult. Many students don't pass it.

**Very** is an adverb that modifies the adjective *difficult* and tells us how difficult the class is.

**Adjectives:** are words that *modify (describe) nouns*. Adjectives do not modify verbs or adverbs or other adjectives.

**Example:**

- Margot wore a **beautiful** hat to the pie-eating contest.
- **Furry** dogs may overheat in the summertime.
- My cake should have **sixteen** candles.
- The **scariest** villain of all time is Darth Vader.

## Adverbs

**answer the questions:**

**How?**

Gene danced gleefully.

**Where?**

Gene danced in the rain.

**When?**

Gene danced during the song.

## Adjectives

**answer the questions:**

**How many?**

Gene sang several songs.

**What kind?**

Gene sang a beautiful song.

**Which?**

Gene sang the most famous song.



## Exercises:

1. Read the sentences below and decide whether an adverb or an adjective is needed. Circle your choice. Then underline the word it modifies. (adverbs usually, but not always, end in 'ly').

- a. The house looked (empty, emptyly).
- b. Jason pitched (wild, wildly).
- c. The choir sang (good, well).
- d. Those hills look (beautiful, beautifully).
- e. The teams were matched (even, evenly).

2. Determine whether each underlined word below is an adjective or an adverb.

- a. The woolly mammoth is believed to be the ancestor of the modern elephant. **Adjective**
- b. She jumped up suddenly and left the room. **Adverb**
- c. The early bird gets the worm. **Adjective**
- d. "Come here, quickly," she said. **Adverb**
- e. A nicely trimmed hedge is an asset to a yard. **Adverb**

3. Fill in the blanks with an adjective or adverb to complete each sentence.

- a. My classmate is a \_\_\_\_\_ person. (nice, nicely)
- b. I can speak Spanish very \_\_\_\_\_. (good, well)
- c. Katrina took a painting class, so she can paint \_\_\_\_\_ pictures. (beautiful, beautifully)

- d. Mr Smith looked \_\_\_\_\_ at me when I arrived late. (angry, angrily)
- e. Of course, I was \_\_\_\_\_ when I got an A+ on the exam. (happy, happily)



In English, it is common to use more than one adjective to describe a noun. These adjectives must be used in the proper order.

Example:

*Here is a beautiful, red, cloth flag.*

Why does beautiful come before red? Why does red come before cloth?

## ORDERING ADJECTIVES

<p><b>N</b></p> <p><b>NUMBER</b></p> <p>few many one</p>	<p><b>O</b></p> <p><b>OPINION</b></p> <p>delicious lovely horrid</p>	<p><b>S</b></p> <p><b>SIZE</b></p> <p>large small tiny</p>	<p><b>A</b></p> <p><b>AGE</b></p> <p>young old new</p>
<p><b>S</b></p> <p><b>SHAPE</b></p> <p>rectangular circular round</p>	<p><b>C</b></p> <p><b>COLOR</b></p> <p>red green white yellow blue</p>	<p><b>O</b></p> <p><b>ORIGIN</b></p> <p>American Chinese French</p>	<p><b>M</b></p> <p><b>MATERIAL</b></p> <p>leather ceramic plastic</p>



## Exercises:

- Understanding the proper order of adjectives takes practice. Use the following table to practice using the proper order of adjectives in the following sentences.

Number	Opinion	Size	Age	Shape	Color	Origin	Material	Purpose
Four	handsome	tall	young	round	red	German	wooden	sleeping

### 1. Choose the correct order of adjectives in the following sentences.

- i. The woman is wearing a \_\_\_\_\_ dress.  
a) yellow, long                      **b) long, yellow**
  
- ii. He is a \_\_\_\_\_ man.  
**a) tall, thin**                              b) thin, tall
  
- iii. The company makes \_\_\_\_\_ products.  
**a) excellent, farming**                      b) farming, excellent
  
- iv. James recently departed on a \_\_\_\_\_ trip.  
a) camping, long                      **b) long, camping**
  
- v. I love eating \_\_\_\_\_ strawberries.  
a) red, big                              **b) big, red**



# Verbs

**Objective: Identify different types of verbs and their tenses, and use them correctly.**

A verb is an essential part of a sentence. Without a verb (and a subject) you have no sentence.

- A verb is a word or a group of words that tells you what a person or thing is **being** or **doing**.

She **went** to the shops.  
today.

He **is drinking** his tea.

She **is** here

- Tense – the word Tense comes from the Latin word “Tempus” which means *time*. The tense of a verb tells you the time at which the action takes place.

There are three main tenses:

- **Present tense:** I **eat**, he **washes**, they **draw**.
- **Past tense:** I **ate**, he **washed**, they **drew**.
- **Future tense:** I **shall eat**, he **will wash**, they **will draw**.

A verb is often made up of more than one word.

# Irregular verbs

Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle	Infinitive	Past tense	Past participle
be	was/were	been	keep	kept	kept
beat	beat	beaten	know	knew	known
become	became	become			
begin	began	begun			
bite	bit	bitten	leave	left	left
break	broke	broken	lend	lent	lent
bring	brought	brought	lose	lost	lost
burn	burnt	burnt			
build	built	built			
buy	bought	bought	make	made	made
			meet	met	met
catch	caught	caught	pay	paid	paid
choose	chose	chosen	put	put	put
come	came	come			
cost	cost	cost			
cut	cut	cut	read	read	read
			ride	rode	ridden
dig	dug	dug	ring	rang	rung
do	did	done	run	ran	run
draw	drew	drawn			
drink	drank	drunk	say	said	said
drive	drove	driven	see	saw	seen
			sell	sold	sold
eat	ate	eaten	send	sent	sent
			shake	shook	shaken
			shine	shone	shone
			shut	shut	shut
fall	fell	fallen	sing	sang	sung
feel	felt	felt	sit	sat	sat
fight	fought	fought	sleep	slept	slept
find	found	found	speak	spoke	spoken
fly	flew	flown	spend	spent	spent
forget	forgot	forgotten	stand	stood	stood
freeze	froze	frozen	steal	stole	stolen
			swim	swam	swum
get	got	got	take	took	taken
give	gave	given	teach	taught	taught
go	went	gone	tell	told	told
grow	grew	grown	think	thought	thought
			throw	threw	thrown
have	had	had			
hear	heard	heard	understand	understood	understood
hide	hid	hidden			
hit	hit	hit			
hold	held	held	wake up	woke up	woken up
hurt	hurt	hurt	wear	wore	worn
			win	won	won
			write	wrote	written



## Exercises:

### 1. Rewrite the following sentences in the past tense.

- a. The baby shakes with cold. **The baby shook with cold.**
- b. The boy is very excited. **The boy was very excited**
- c. My mom cooks lunch. **My mom cooked lunch.**
- d. She hit him hard with her purse. **She hit him with her purse.**
- e. The actor performs well. **The actor performed well.**
- f. He fights like a tiger. **He fought like a tiger.**
- g. They spend a lot on clothes and cars. **They spent a lot on clothes and cars.**

### 2. Underline all parts of the verb (verb group) in each sentence.

- a. The boy is playing golf.
- b. I went to the mall.
- c. We have broken the glass.
- d. The girls are playing with their dolls.
- e. The workers have built a big house.
- f. We will travel to England next year.
- g. The cat has chased the mouse.
- h. She had skated all around the icy-lake.

- i. Jane **was typing** a letter.
- j. We **will meet** the principal next week.
- k. I **have broken** my pencil.
- l. Beth and Jamie **were hiding** behind the bushes.

# The Verb Tenses

ENGLISH VERB TENSE	Past	Present	Future
<b>SIMPLE</b>	I <b>studied</b> English yesterday.	I <b>study</b> English.	I <b>will study</b> English.
<b>CONTINUOUS</b>	I <b>was studying</b> English.	I <b>am studying</b> English.	I <b>will be studying</b> English.
<b>PERFECT</b>	I <b>had studied</b> English.	I <b>have studied</b> English.	I <b>will have studied</b> English.

### 3. Read the following sentences and identify the tenses used in them.

- a. My sister **lives** in Mumbai. **Simple Present**
- b. The girl **was carrying** a basket full of flowers on her head. **Past Continuous**
- c. The boys **are playing** cricket. **Present Continuous**
- d. I **had** a strange dream yesterday. **Past Simple**



- e. My father **drinks** coffee in the morning. **Simple Present**
- f. I **will meet** you at the library. **Simple Future**
- g. Once a week, he **washes** his car. **Simple Present**
- h. Rahul **enjoys** clay modeling. **Simple Present**
- i. The boy **helped** the man cross the road. **Simple Past**
- j. He **has lived** all his life in Mumbai. **Present Perfect**
- k. We **have** just **finished** our rehearsal. **Present Perfect**
- l. With this tail wind, the plane **will arrive** early. **Simple Future**
- m. The children **were listening** closely to the speaker. **Past Continuous**
- n. Mr. Waldner **has brought** some samples for us to look at. **Present Perfect**
- o. Franny and I **walk** to school most of the time. **Simple Present**
- p. The pitcher **threw** six fast balls in a row. **Simple Past**
- q. We **will send** you a postcard from London. **Simple Future**