

المحاضرة الثالثة

المادة: قواعد

الفرقة الأولى لغة انجليزية - عام

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ADJECTIVES

**Adjectives are words that describe nouns. They express the quality or attribute of
a noun:**

a *happy* child a *surly* person *toxic* waste
an *old* man *defective* brakes a *greedy* child
a *red* flag a *dangerous* road a *large* hotel

Typical adjective adjectives can occur before a noun, or after a linking verb

- a *violent* storm ~the storm was *violent*
- a *delicious* meal ~the meal is *delicious*

A small number of adjectives are restricted to just one position. The adjective *afraid*, for instance, can only appear after a linking verb:

the children were *afraid* *~the *afraid* children

Conversely, the adjective *chief* can only occur before a noun:

the *chief* result

~the result is *chief

In a small number of fixed expressions, an adjective appears immediately after the noun:

- the people *responsible*
- the Princess *Royal*
- the heir *apparent*
- the roadway *proper*

Adjective endings include:

- ble *accessible, comfortable, possible, responsible, terrible*
- ive *constructive, deceptive, defective, furtive, interactive*

-ous *continuous, delicious, enormous, rigorous, serious*

-y *funny, greedy, happy, rainy, tasty, weary*

Adjectives can modify a small number of pronouns. They always follow the pronoun:

- **something** *terrible*

- **someone** *new*

- **nobody** *special*

- **nothing** *unusual*

Gradable adjectives

Most adjectives can take a modifying word, such as *fairly*, *very* or *extremely*,

before them:

fairly cold

very cold

extremely cold

The modifying word locates the adjective on a relative scale of intensity. In this example, the scale is from *fairly cold* to *extremely cold*. This characteristic of adjectives is called gradability.

The modifying words (*fairly, very, extremely*) are called intensifiers.

Comparative and superlative adjectives

The adjective *cold* has two other forms, *colder* (the comparative form) and *coldest* (the superlative form). The form *cold* is called the base form. Most adjectives have these three forms.

Here are some more examples:

Base form	Comparative form	Superlative form
new	newer	newest
old	older	oldest
dark	darker	darkest
big	bigger	biggest

The comparative form is produced by adding an *-er* ending to the base form.

The superlative form is produced by adding an *-est* ending, again to the base:

Base *cold* + *-er* = comparative *colder*

Base *cold* + *-est* = superlative *coldest*

Some adjectives form the comparative and superlative using *more* and *most* respectively:

Base form

Comparative form

Superlative form

recent

more recent

most recent

important

more important

most important

In general, adjectives with one syllable in the base form take the *-er* and *-est* endings, while longer words use *more* and *most*:

Base form

Comparative form

Superlative form

warm

warmer

warmest

hopeful

more hopeful

most hopeful

beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
complicated	more complicated	most complicated

The adjectives *good* and *bad* have irregular comparative and superlative forms:

Base form	Comparative form	Superlative form
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst

Participial adjectives

Participial adjectives have the endings *-ed* or *-ing* that we normally associate with verbs:

a *complicated* process

an *amazing* achievement

a *crazed* expression

a *boring* book

a *disabled* person

a *confusing* account

an *embarrassed* smile

a *fascinating* photograph

an *experienced* driver

a *rewarding* experience

a *talented* singer

a *staggering* result

Most participial adjectives have a corresponding verb (*to complicate, to amaze, etc*), but some do not. For example, there is no verb *to talent*, corresponding to a *talented singer*.

Like other adjectives, participial adjectives may be gradable:

- a *very complicated* process
- an *extremely rewarding* experience

They also have comparative and superlative forms:

complicated	more complicated	most complicated
rewarding	more rewarding	most rewarding

EXERCISE

I. Complete the following sentences using the appropriate form of the adjective given in the brackets.

1. He is than his neighbors. (rich)

2. The brides were much than the grooms. (young)
3. He is too to be taught. (intelligent)
4. He is than I thought him to be. (clever)
5. When the old woman became, she began to move about. (strong)
6. He is much now. (good)
7. The offer was too to be true. (good)
8. He fishes with success than I do. (great)
9. Shakespeare is the playwright in English. (great)
10. The pain was than he could bear. (much)

11. The thing of all was that his son was rude to him. (bad)

12. Jane was the player of the two. (good)

II. Choose the right adjectives with endings -ed or -ing to complete the following sentences in English.

1. He is very _____ when he starts telling anecdotes everybody knows. (tiring – tired)

2. He was _____ in all we told him. (interested – interesting)

3. This book is very _____. (interested - interesting)

4. He looked at them in an _____ way. (amused – amusing)

5. I was _____ at the concert, I am not interested in music. (boring – bored)

6. I was _____ after six hours on the train. (tired – tiring)

7. We were _____ by his talk. (stimulated – stimulating)
8. It is an _____ anecdote. (amusing – amused)
9. Sometimes I find this conversation very _____. (bored – boring)
10. He tells very _____ stories. (amused – amusing)