

**ADJECTIVE**

# Productive suffixes

- able	comfortable/ regrettable/ preferable/ reliable/lovable/ agreeable/manageable/noticable
- al	cultural/ medical/ musical/economical/ historical
- ible	legible/ visible/ sensible
- ic	heroic/ economic/ scientific/historic
- ish	childish/ foolish/ selfish/ yellowish/ reddish
- ive	attractive/ expensive/ productive
- ful	beautiful/ playful/ wilful/ skilful/ useful
- less	careless/ helpless/ useless
- ly	<b><i>lonely/ deadly/ elderly/ likely/ lively/ugly/ friendly/ early/ lovely/goodly/ poorly</i></b>
-ous	courageous/ spacious/vigorous/ piteous
-y	curly/ funny/ muddy/woolly/ icy/ stony/ pearly/ silvery/ silky/ grassy/ woody/ snowy

# compare:

MADE OF	LOOKING LIKE/ RESEMBLING
A gold watch/ring	Golden memories/ anniversary
Silk stockings	Silken skin
A lead pipe/ zeppelin	A leaden sky
A stone roof	A stony silence/face/road
A pearl necklace	Pearly teeth
A wax candle	Waxen pallor

# *Participles used adjectivally*

-ing	-ed
alarming	alarmed
amazing	amazed
amusing	amused
boring	bored
disappointing	disappointed
embarrassing	embarrassed
fascinating	fascinated
daring	badly/well-behaved
deafening	well-built/-dressed/-educated
heartening	conceited
enterprising	distinguished
entertaining	balanced

# *The order of adjectives*

Determiner	Opinion or Epithet	Size Physical quality Shape Age	Colour	Participial adjectives	Origin	Material or Substance	Type	Purpose	Noun
An		old		washed-out		plastic		shopping	bag
My	favourite		green		Venetian	glass			ashtray
This	frightening		black		Korean			ritual	mask
A	handy	oval	green		Chinese		digital	alarm	clock

# *Adjectives in the noun-phrase*

1. **Attributive** position (before a modified noun):

e.g. A **big red** scarf was hiding her face

2. **Predicative** position (after the link-verb):

e.g. She was hiding her face in the red scarf that **looked** too **big** for her

Most adjectives may be used BOTH ways, **BUT:**

# Adjectives used *ONLY* predicatively.

Predicative adjectives	Their attributive counterparts
His mother is <b>ill/unwell/well</b>	His sick/ healthy mother
She is feeling <b>poorly</b>	He gave a faint smile There is a faint hope to do it
The child is <b>afraid</b>	It's a frightened child
These two men are <b>alike</b> These problems are <b>alike</b>	- These are similar problems
He is <b>alive!!</b> The tree is <b>alive</b>	- It's a living tree
The old lady lives <b>alone</b>	She is a lonely old lady
I am <b>ashamed</b>	-
The dog is <b>asleep</b>	Let sleeping dogs lie
Now it's <b>awake</b>	-
Are you <b>aware</b> of the danger?	-
I am <b>sorry</b>	-

# Adjectives used ONLY attributively

Attributive adjectives	
My <b>elder/ eldest</b> brother is a student	My elder/ eldest brother is five years <b>older</b> than me
Our <b>chief/ main/ principal</b> reason for abandoning this project was financial	-
Jane is a <b>mere</b> child	-
These expenditure was a <b>sheer</b> waste of money	-
This man is an <b>utter/ complete/ perfect</b> fool	The work is now <b>complete/ perfect</b>



# Gradable and Ungradable Adjectives

VERY/ EXTREMELY + GA	ABSOLUTELY/ TOTALLY + UA
deeply, fairly, hugely, immensely, rather, reasonably, slightly	completely, entirely, simply, utterly
+	+
able. angry, big, busy, beautiful, comfortable, common, happy, important, young, quiet, rich, strong, sarcastic, <b>small</b> ugly, etc	amazed, awful, dreadful, equal, favourite, furious, huge, ideal, impossible, invaluable, <b>little</b> , terrible, wonderful, useless, unique, etc
Gradable adjectives <b>can</b> form <b>the degrees of comparison</b> or be used with adverbs such as <b>very/extremely</b> to say that a thing/person has more or less of a particular quality	Ungradable adjectives themselves imply “to a large degree” or some other ungradable quality, thus they <b>cannot</b> form the degrees of comparison
E g She was <b>extremely rich, the richest</b> person in town	E g He gave us a <b>completely impossible</b> problem to solve E g All animals are <b>equal</b> , but some

# *Types of Comparison*

With GRADABLE adjectives, three types of comparison are possible:

- → to ***a higher degree*** (positive/ comparative/ superlative)
- ↔ ***the same degree*** ( as ... as/ not so ... as)
- ← to ***a lower degree*** ( less/ least)

# The Degrees of Comparison

SHORT (1/2-syllable adj)	LONG (2+ syllable adj)	SPECIAL
-er/-est	more/most	Suppletive forms
<p>1. Most <b>monosyllabic</b> words</p> <p>cheap-cheaper-cheapest big-<b>bigger</b>-biggest late-later-latest cruel-crueller- cruellest dry-<b>drier</b>-<b>driest</b> grey-greyer-greyest</p>	<p>1. Three monosyllabic words:</p> <p><b>like</b>- more/most like <b>real</b>-more/most real <b>tired</b>-more/most tired</p> <p>George is more like his father than like his mother</p>	<p>good - better - best well</p> <p>bad ill - worse-worst poorly</p> <p>far –farther- farthest further – furthest old –older-oldest elder-eldest</p>
<p>2. Two-syllable adjectives in <b>-y</b></p> <p>happy-happier-happiest untidy-untidier-untidiest</p>	<p>2 Most <b>of two-syllable derived</b> adjectives</p> <p>careful-more/most careful helpless-more/most helpless</p>	<p>2. Compound adjectives with <b>good/well/fine</b> as the first element</p> <p>Good-looking-better-/best - looking</p>

# The Degrees of Comparison in Collocations

Positive	Comparative (TWO things to compare)	Superlative (MORE than two things to compare)
<p><b>As... as</b>  <b>Not so ... as</b>            She is <b>as beautiful as</b> her mother, but not so determined as her father</p>	<p>bigger/more beautiful <b>than</b></p>	<p>The best <b>available/ money can buy/possible/ imaginable/ we have/ to be found</b></p>
<p><b>too big</b>            You are <b>too big</b> to be treated like a child            He will be <b>only too tired</b> to notice your absence</p>	<p><b>a great deal</b> younger            Her last husband was <b>a great deal younger than</b> her son.</p>	<p><b>By far the best</b>            She was <b>by far the camp's best</b> swimmer. — Она плавала намного /на порядок лучше всех в лагере.</p>
<p>big <b>enough</b>            You are <b>big enough</b> for me to treat you like my equal</p>	<p><b>still</b> younger            Ten years ago you looked young, but now you look <b>still younger</b>. How do you</p>	

# Tricky cases

<p><b>latest - most recent</b> Yorkshire terriers are <b>the latest fad</b> of it-girls</p>	<p><b>last - previous (about time) прошлый</b> <b>Last Christmas</b> I spent at my ex's. I do hope that was <b>the last Christmas</b> we spent together</p>	<p><b>the last - final, последний</b> Actor: Did you see <b>my last film?</b> Actress: I hope so!</p>
<p><b>nearest – very close, nearby</b> Where is <b>the nearest</b> convenience store</p>	<p><b>next – the following (about time)</b> I am leaving <b>next week</b></p>	<p><b>the next – the next( by order)</b> Try to concentrate, you are <b>the next</b> to speak</p>

# Substantivized Adjectives/Adjectival Nouns

Meaning	Pattern	Example
Names of colours/shades of colours <b>in the generic meaning</b>	⊗ (the zero article)+N (Golden Rule#2)	⊗ <b>Red</b> doesn't match you at all, your colour is⊗ <b>pink</b>
Names of colours with <b>particularizing attributes</b> or <b>specified</b> by the situation	<b>THE+(Limiting Attr)+N</b> (Golden Rule#3)	<b>The red of her lipstick</b> is not very flattering, it's too glossy <i>In the sky</i> <b>the blue</b> was beautiful
Names of colours modified by <b>estimating attributes</b>	<b>strange</b> <b>A + certain +N</b> <b>peculiar</b> (see Article, Part 2, slide 4)	The blood under her skin seemed to be <b>a strange purple</b>
Substantivized adjectives denoting <b>generalized or abstract notions</b> .	<b>THE+N +IS/DOES</b> (Singular agreement)	Why are you hiding in <b>the dark</b> ? <b>The unknown IS</b> intriguing but dangerous