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Predicate Adjectives Adjectives That Follow Behind

Reading and Discussion

What is an adjective?

Adjectives are describing words. Adjectives are words that tell us more about a noun. Let's look at some sentences using the noun **cat**.

- My sister has a **fluffy** cat. **Fluffy** is an adjective that describes cat.
- Aunt Joan has a **brown** cat. **Brown** is an adjective that describes cat.

Notice how the adjectives change the way we picture the cat.

Most of the time, an adjective comes right **before** the noun, but sometimes, you will find an adjective **after** the noun. An easy way to find these adjectives is to ask yourself a question about them.

Look at the sentences above. Ask yourself what is brown? What is fluffy? It is the cats of course. **Fluffy** and **brown** describe the cats. We could say the cat is **fluffy**, or the cat is **brown**.

Adjectives that come **after** the verb - the action word - are called **predicate adjectives**. Read the sentence with a **predicate adjective** below.

- My sister's cat is *fluffy*.

What is *fluffy*? It is the cat. *Fluffy* describes the cat.

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Activities

Read the sentences below. Underline the adjectives in each sentence. Do they come **before** or **after** the noun?

1. Mr. Johnson's dog is scary.
2. I saw a brown, spotted cow at the county fair.
3. Anne has a cat with a long tail.
4. My dog is old.
5. The yellow parrot can speak fourteen words.
6. My brown hamster at school is playful.
7. I love wiggly animals the best.

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Answer Key

1. Mr. Johnson's dog is scary.
2. I saw a brown, spotted cow at the county fair.
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