

More Things to Know About Adjectives

Reading and Discussion

Adjectives are describing words. They modify nouns by giving more information about them. **Adjectives** answer the questions:

1. What kind?
2. How many?
3. Which one?

1. Adjectives telling us what kind are easy to find in a sentence. They usually come right before the noun, but if the verb in the sentence is a being verb, like **is, are, was, or were**, the adjective will come after the noun it describes.

- The **yellow** sun shone brightly.
The word **yellow** is the adjective. What kind of sun? Yellow sun.
- The sun was **yellow** and **bright**.
Yellow and **bright** are the adjectives. They come after the verb **was** but they still tell us what kind of sun.

2. Adjectives can tell us how many in two different ways. They can tell us with a number word that shows exactly how many: **one, two, thirteen, one hundred, or a million**. And they can tell about how many by using words such as **few, some, several, and less**.

- The boys ate **two** popsicles each.
- The boys ate **several** popsicles each.

3. Adjectives like **this** and **that** can answer the question “Which one?” **This** points out things that are near. **That** points to things that are far away.

- **This** dog is slippery.
- **That** dog next door is loud.

Three special **adjectives** are called **articles**. The articles are

- a) a
- b) an
- c) the.

If you see one of these small words, a noun is sure to follow. Use **a** or **the** in front of words that begin with a consonant. Use **an** in front of words that begin with a vowel.

a) **a** horse; b) **the** house; c) **an** eagle; d) **an** igloo

Name _____

Date _____

Activities

Activity A: Let's Review Adjectives

- Adjectives answer what three questions when describing nouns?
 - _____
 - _____
 - _____
- An adjective usually comes right _____ the noun.
- If the sentence has a state of being verb, the adjective comes _____ the noun.
- Write an adjective that tells how many in front of the nouns below. Use one word that means an exact number and one word that could mean any amount.
 - _____ kittens
 - _____ llamas
- The adjective _____ points to things that are near.
- The adjective _____ points to things that are far away.
- The adjectives **a**, **an**, and **the** are also called _____.
- A** and **the** are used before words that begin with a _____.
- An** is used before words that begin with a _____.

Activity B: In the following sentences, use an adjective that tells us what kind.

- Jake and Marian went sledding on the _____ hill.
- My brother likes to eat _____ cake.
- Sandy plays an _____ violin.
- The snowman was _____ and _____.
- Jim's puppy is _____.

Name _____

Date _____

Activity C: Fill in the blanks with an adjective that tells how many.

1. There were _____ children at the party.
2. Tyler broke _____ balloons in the water battle.
3. _____ girls were given party favors with pink ribbon.
4. The boys ate _____ cake and ice cream.
5. Susan, the birthday girl, received _____ gifts.

Activity D: Use either **this** or **that** to fill in the blanks in the following sentences.

1. _____ is the puppy John wants.
2. _____ mountain is farther away than we thought.
3. Tammy rode to _____ bike trail last summer.
4. Maria baked _____ cake today.
5. _____ adjective is used to point to things that are near.

Answer Key

Activity A

1. Adjectives answer what three things when describing nouns?
 - a) What kind?
 - b) How many?
 - c) Which one?
2. Most of the time an adjective comes right before the noun.
3. If the sentence has a state of being verb, the adjective comes after the noun.
4. Write an adjective that tells how many in front of the nouns below. Use one word that means an exact number and one word that could mean any amount.
Answers will vary.
5. The adjective this points to things that are near.
6. The adjective that points to things that are far away.
7. The adjectives **a**, **an**, and **the** are also called articles.
8. **A** or **the** are used before words that begin with a consonant.
9. **An** is used before words that begin with a vowel.

Activity B

Answers will vary.

Activity C

Answers will vary.

Activity D

Answers will vary.