

Adjectives and Adverbs

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun or pronoun. Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

An adverb is a word or set of words that modifies verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. Usually adverbs modify verbs, telling us how, how often, when, or where something was done.

*We walked **really slowly**.*

2) Adjectives tell us something about a person or a thing. Adjectives can modify nouns (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronouns (e.g. we, it etc.).

*Lilly is an **honest** person.*

*The movie was **awful!** The plot is simply **boring**.*

There are many pairs of adjectives ending in *-ing* and *-ed*. Remember that if something is *-ing*, it makes you *-ed*.

*He is **excited** because the event is **exciting**.*

*I am **annoyed** because this whole situation is **annoying**.*

Sometimes we use two or more adjectives together. Quantity/number and quality/opinion adjectives usually go before fact adjectives.

article	quantity/number	quality/opinion	fact	noun
<i>a</i>		<i>nice</i>	<i>sunny</i>	<i>morning</i>
	<i>two</i>	<i>intelligent</i>	<i>young</i>	<i>ladies</i>
<i>a</i>		<i>beautiful</i>	<i>large round wooden</i>	<i>table</i>

There are times when we use two or more fact adjectives. We put fact adjectives in the following order:

article	size	age	shape	colour	material/origin	purpose	noun
<i>a</i>	<i>big</i>	<i>old</i>	<i>round</i>		<i>wooden</i>		<i>table</i>
		<i>new</i>		<i>white</i>		<i>tennis</i>	<i>shoes</i>
<i>a</i>	<i>tall</i>	<i>young</i>			<i>Polish</i>		<i>boy</i>

The types of adjectives will be covered in the following lessons.

An adverb is a word or set of words that modifies:

a) verbs, telling how, how often, when, or where something was done.

*The cars drove **fast**.*

b) adjectives, making them stronger or weaker.

*Ann looked **absolutely** amazing!*

c) other adverbs, changing their degree or precision.

*You're speaking **too** loudly.*

The types of adverbs will be covered in the following lessons.

Short Story Dialogue

– How are you doing **today**?

– I'm **really tired**! We've got a **very important** project to work on.

– It must be **tiring**! Is it going **well** though?

– Yes, **very well**! Our department is **quite big** so one could imagine that there would be problems with task management. But I must say that my co-workers are **extremely professional and responsible**.

–Everything is going to be **great**! The amount of dedication you have is **amazing**!

Independent Practice - Adjectives and Adverbs

1) Decide whether an adjective or an adverb should be used.

- a. Your house is very close/closely to ours.
- b. She moved quick/quickly around the shop.
- c. Listen careful/carefully! I won't repeat it again.
- d. It is not as bad/badly as it sounds.

2) Put the adjectives into the correct order.

a. Our apartment is ... and ... (modern, spacious).
b. I want to hear ... reasons why you don't want to go with us (good, two).
c. Marina has ... dogs (black and white, lovely, two).

3) Answer the questions.

a. How often do you go to the movies?
b. Are you close to your family?
c. What is something that you can do extremely well?

Independent Practice: Answers - Adjectives and Adverbs

1) Decide whether an adjective or an adverb should be used.

- a. Your house is very **close**/closely to ours.
- b. She moved quick/**quickly** around the shop.
- c. Listen careful/**carefully**! I won't repeat it again.
- d. It is not as **bad**/badly as it sounds.

2) Put the adjectives into the correct order.

- a. Our apartment is **modern and spacious**.
- b. I want to hear **two good** reasons why you don't want to go with us.
- c. Marina has **two lovely black and white** dogs.

3) Answer the questions. Sample Answers:

- a. I go to the movies quite often.
- b. Yes, I'm very close to my family.
- c. I can play the guitar extremely well.

Descriptive Adjectives

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of descriptive adjectives. Descriptive adjectives describe nouns or pronouns in detail by giving an attribute to that particular word. They usually express things through the five senses (touch, taste, sight, smell, and sound).

*This is a **delicious** sandwich.*

Descriptive adjectives can be organized into the following categories according to their structure:

a) simple adjectives are the most basic type of descriptive adjectives. Aspects such as feelings, time, sound, quantity, taste, appearance, size, age, color, shape, and material are expressed through simple adjectives.

*It was a **beautiful** day yesterday. **Clear** sky, **sweet** smell of blossoming trees, **green** grass, **cheerful** people... It seemed as if the world had united to celebrate the coming of spring.*

b) compound adjectives are created when two words are combined to create a descriptive adjective. The two words are typically connected with a hyphen.

*Pam was a **baby-faced long-legged** girl.*

Short Story Dialogue

- I've heard that you are going to move abroad next month.
- Yes, that's true. We are going to **sunny** Spain.
- I think I know the reason behind this. After living here in **ice-cold** Finland you want something less **depressing** weather-wise.
- Yeah, exactly! We want to explore the **narrow** streets of Madrid, dine at **small family** restaurants, enjoy **magnificent** sunsets...
- You're going to love it there then!

Independent Practice - Descriptive Adjectives

1) Underline the descriptive adjectives in the following sentences.

- a. I saw a lovely young, good, intelligent, fascinating woman, such as I had never met before.
- b. ... to understand the mystery of this uninteresting, good, simple-hearted man, who argued with such wearisome good sense.
- c. ... and he kept near the more solid people, looking listless and superfluous, with a submissive, uninterested expression, as though he had been brought there for sale.

2) Form compound descriptive adjectives.

- a. If someone resembles a bird, he is
- b. If someone broke your heart, you are
- c. If you use your left hand to do everything, you are

3) Put the adjectives into the correct order.

a. Jim drew a picture of ... dragons. (three-headed, two)
b. Jack bought a/an ... ring. (diamond, expensive, engagement)
c. She was a ... lady. (self-centered, young)

Independent Practice: Answers - Descriptive Adjectives

1) Underline the descriptive adjectives in the following sentences.

- a. I saw a lovely young, good, intelligent, fascinating woman, such as I had never met before.
- b. ... to understand the mystery of this uninteresting, good, simple-hearted man, who argued with such wearisome good sense.
- c. ... and he kept near the more solid people, looking listless and superfluous, with a submissive, uninterested expression, as though he had been brought there for sale.

2) Form compound descriptive adjectives.

- a. If someone resembles a bird, he is **birdlike**.
- b. If someone broke your heart, you are **broken-hearted**.
- c. If you use your left hand to do everything, you are **left-handed**.

3) Put the adjectives into the correct order.

- a. Jim drew a picture of **two three-headed** dragons.
- b. Jack bought an **expensive diamond engagement** ring.
- c. She was a **self-centered young** lady.

Proper Adjectives

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of proper adjectives. Proper adjectives are formed from proper nouns and modify nouns and pronouns.

*I love **Italian** culture.*

A proper noun is the specific name used for any person, place, or thing. Proper adjectives typically look like their original proper nouns but have some sort of alternative ending in order to make them adjectives.

*He lives in **America**. (proper noun)*

*He likes **American** holidays. (proper adjective)*

Proper adjectives are derived from proper nouns. For this reason, they are capitalized.

*When she lived in China, Liz ate a lot of **Chinese** food.*

When a proper adjective has a prefix, the prefix itself is never capitalized (unless it is the first word of a sentence). However, the proper adjective itself is still capitalized.

*In **pre-Columbian** America, corn was the only cultivated cereal.*

The most common endings for nationalities are *-ian/-ean/-an*, *-ic*, *-ese*, *-i*, *-ish*. The reason that English has so many endings for different nationalities is that they were borrowed from other languages.

-ian/-ean/-an	-ic	-ese	-i	-ish
Italian	Icelandic	Chinese	Iraqi	Danish
Korean	Nordic	Japanese	Israeli	Finnish
Moroccan		Portuguese	Pakistani	Irish

Short Story Dialogue

- *Do you know that Kelly works at a **Mexican** restaurant?*
- *Yeah? But I know that she doesn't even like **Mexican** food!*
- *That's true, but we don't have any **European** or **Asian** restaurants here.*
- *Actually, I heard that some **French** place is going to open in a month or two.*
- *Really? I think she would love to work there. Her cooking skills are excellent!*

Independent Practice - Proper Adjectives

1) Decide whether the adjectives should be capitalized in the following sentences.

- a. She's been reading buddhist/Buddhist teachings.
- b. Painting originated in prehistoric/Prehistoric times.
- c. An anti-theft/anti-Theft backpack holds just about anything you need while keeping it all safe with enhanced safety features.
- d. He was described as a real renaissance/Renaissance man.

2) Form proper adjectives.

- a. (*France*) toasts may be eaten as a dessert in France.
- b. Billy likes reading (*Greece*) myths.
- c. Have you ever tried traditional (*Ireland*) stew?
- d. The band plays (*Christ*) music.
- e. I'd like to try (*Belgium*) waffles.
- f. The (*Edward*) era of British history covers the brief reign of King Edward VII.

Independent Practice: Answers - Proper Adjectives

1) Decide whether the adjectives should be capitalized in the following sentences.

- a. She's been reading buddhist/**Buddhist** teachings.
- b. Painting originated in **prehistoric**/Prehistoric times.
- c. An **anti-theft**/anti-Theft backpack holds just about anything you need while keeping it all safe with enhanced safety features.
- d. He was described as a real renaissance/**Renaissance** man.

2) Form the proper adjectives.

- a. **French** toasts may be eaten as a dessert in France.
- b. Billy likes reading **Greek** myths.
- c. Have you ever tried traditional **Irish** stew?
- d. The band plays **Christian** music.
- e. I'd like to try **Belgian** waffles.
- f. The **Edwardian** era of British history covers the brief reign of King Edward VII.

Possessive Adjectives

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of limiting adjectives. They help to define or 'limit' a noun or pronoun by telling which one, what kind, or how many.

***This** sandwich is delicious.*

In the category of limiting adjectives there are possessive adjectives. Possessive adjectives modify the noun following it in order to show possession. These adjectives are *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*.

*I told **my** friend that I like someone, then she told that to **her** friend, and that friend told that to **his** friends, and now everyone knows everything.*

Here is a chart to help you learn which possessive adjective to use.

Person	Subject	Object	Possessive Adjective	Possessive Pronoun
First Singular	I	me	my (cat)	mine
Second Singular	You	you	your (cat)	yours
Third Singular	He	him	his (cat)	his
	She	her	her (cat)	hers
	It	it	its (cat)	its
First Plural	We	us	our (cat)	ours
Second Plural	You	you	Your (cat)	yours
Third Plural	They	them	Their (cat)	theirs

The possessive adjective needs to agree with the possessor and not with the thing that is possessed. However, the verb that is used needs to be in agreement with the noun – if the noun is singular then the verb is singular; if the noun is plural then the verb is plural.

*She has a boyfriend. **Her** boyfriend is very kind.
Peter likes to cook. **His** cooking skills are great.*

Possessive adjectives are often confused with possessive pronouns. A possessive adjective is used to describe a noun, and it comes before it. On the other hand, a possessive pronoun is used instead of a noun.

***Your** car is black. (**Your** is an adjective which modifies the word 'car'.)
Mine is white. (**Mine** is a pronoun which functions as the subject of the sentence.)*

Do not confuse *its* and *it's*. *Its* is the possessive adjective for *it*. *It's* is a contraction of *it is*.

***It is** a beautiful day. = **It's** a beautiful day.
The dog was wiggling **its** tail.*

Do not confuse *their* and *they're*. *Their* is the possessive adjective for *they*. *They're* is a contraction of *they are*.

***They are** best friends. = **They're** best friends.
I wanted to see **their** performance.*

Short Story Dialogue

- Hey, have you seen **my** phone anywhere?*
- No, I haven't seen it. Maybe you should check **your** backpack – when I lose **my** phone, it's usually there!*
- I can't seem to find it there though. Could you call me?*
- Yeah, sure. I think I have **your** number.*
- I don't want to use **our** company phone for personal matters. And I really hope that I haven't lost **my** phone somewhere.*

Independent Practice - Possessive Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*.

- a. Peter is from the UK. wife is from the US.
- b. These students didn't do homework.
- c. Look at the kitten! Look at tiny paws!
- d. Mary loves grandfather a lot. She visits him every week.
- e. Pam and Kate go to high school. little brother goes to nursery school.
- f. We go to the same school. school is amazing!
- g. I don't like haircut. I think it doesn't suit me.

2) Fill in the gaps with *it's, its, they're, their*.

- a. such a nice day! Maybe we could go to the beach.
- b. parents are very strict. They never let them go out with us late at night.
- c. Sorry, but I can't believe it. so kind to everyone!

Independent Practice: Answers - Possessive Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*.

- a. Peter is from the UK. **His** wife is from the US.
- b. These students didn't do **their** homework.
- c. Look at the kitten! Look at **its** tiny paws!
- d. Mary loves **her** grandfather a lot. She visits him every week.
- e. Pam and Kate go to high school. **Their** little brother goes to nursery school.
- f. We go to the same school. **Our** school is amazing!
- g. I don't like **my** haircut. I think it doesn't suit me.

2) Fill in the gaps with *its, it's, they're, their*.

- a. **It's** such a nice day! Maybe we could go to the beach.
- b. **Their** parents are very strict. They never let them go out with us late at night.
- c. Sorry, but I can't believe it. **They're** so kind to everyone!

Degrees of Adjectives – Positive – Comparative

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun or pronoun. Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) Most adjectives can show degree of quality or quantity by forming two degrees of comparison: the comparative degree and the superlative degree. These degrees are formed from the positive degree, which is the usual form of adjectives.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
<i>This is a tall building.</i>	<i>This building is taller than that one.</i>	<i>This is the tallest building.</i>

Comparative adjectives are used to compare differences between the two objects they modify. When forming the comparative degree follow the pattern *noun/pronoun (subject) + verb + comparative adjective + than + noun/pronoun (object)*.

*My room is **larger** than Jake's.*

The second item of comparison can be omitted if it is clear from the context that something is being compared to something else.

*If you start working out you'll get **thinner**. (=You'll get thinner in comparison to your past self.)*

Comparative adjectives with one syllable are normally formed by adding *-er* to the adjective.

smart – smarter

If an adjective has a *consonant + single vowel + consonant* spelling, *the final consonant* must be *doubled* before adding *-er*.

big – bigger

Adjectives ending in *constant + -y* change *-y* to *-i* and add *-er*.

dry – drier

Adjectives with two syllables can form the comparative either by adding *-er* or by preceding the adjective with *more*.

happy – happier

tangled – more tangled

In many cases, both forms are used, although one usage will be more common than the other. If you are not sure whether a two-syllable adjective can take a comparative ending, use *more* instead.

Adjectives with three or more syllables form the comparative by preceding the adjective with *more*.

beautiful – more beautiful

Some adjectives do not follow any of the rules explained earlier. They are compared irregularly. Here are the most common irregular adjectives.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
<i>good</i>	<i>better</i>	<i>the best</i>
<i>bad</i>	<i>worse</i>	<i>the worst</i>
<i>far</i>	<i>farther/further</i>	<i>the farthest/furthest</i>
<i>little</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>the least</i>
<i>much/many</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>the most</i>

The superlative degree will be covered in the following lesson.

Short Story Dialogue

– *How are you doing?*

– *I'm OK. And how are you?*

– *I'm fine, thank you! I must say that you look **more tired** in comparison to when I saw you last time.*

– *Yeah, my life is definitely **more complicated** now. I'm finishing my studies and... I'm craving for sleep! I try to choose **healthier** options when I eat, I try to be **more active** but it doesn't help when you sleep 4 hours a day.*

– *I totally get you! Life was definitely **easier** when we were kids.*

Independent Practice - Degrees of Adjectives – Positive – Comparative

1) Underline the correct word or phrase.

- a. It was *better/more good* this time!
- b. This dress is a lot longer *that/than* the other one.
- c. Today Tom feels *more bad/worse* than yesterday.
- d. Bill is *more attentive/more attentiver* when he is talking to someone in person.
- e. Our drive took *longier/longer* than we expected.

2) Form the comparative degree.

- a. Non-smokers usually live (long) than smokers.
- b. The weather this winter is even (bad) than last winter.
- c. A holiday by the sea is (good) than a holiday in the mountains.
- d. This skirt is (beautiful) than that one.
- e. Our house is (big) than theirs.

Independent Practice: Answers - Degrees of Adjectives – Positive – Comparative

1) Underline the correct word or phrase.

- a. It was better/more good this time!
- b. This dress is a lot longer that/than the other one.
- c. Today Tom feels *more bad*/worse than yesterday.
- d. Bill is more attentive/*more attentiver* when he is talking to someone in person.
- e. Our drive took *longier*/longer than we expected.

2) Form the comparative degree.

- a. Non-smokers usually live **longer** than smokers.
- b. The weather this winter is even **worse** than last winter.
- c. A holiday by the sea is **better** than a holiday in the mountains.
- d. This skirt is **more beautiful** than that one.
- e. Our house is **bigger** than theirs.

Degrees of Adjectives – Superlative

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun or pronoun. Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) Most adjectives can show degree of quality or quantity by forming two degrees of comparison: the comparative degree and the superlative degree. These degrees are formed from the positive degree, which is the usual form of adjectives.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
<i>This is a tall building.</i>	<i>This building is taller than that one.</i>	<i>This is the tallest building.</i>

Superlative adjectives are used to describe an object which is at the upper or lower limit of a quality (*the tallest, the smallest etc.*). They are used in sentences where a subject is compared to a group of objects. When forming the superlative degree follow the pattern *noun/pronoun (subject) + verb + the + superlative adjective + noun/pronoun (object)*.

*My room is **the largest** one in the house.*

The group that is being compared with can be omitted if it is clear from the context that something is at the upper or lower limit of a quality

*She is **the prettiest** (girl in the office.)*

Superlative adjectives with one syllable are normally formed by adding *-est* to the adjective.

smart – the smartest

If an adjective has a *consonant + single vowel + consonant* spelling, *the final consonant* must be *doubled* before adding *-est*.

big – the biggest

Adjectives ending in *consonant + -y* change *-y* to *-i* and add *-est*.

dry – the driest

Adjectives with two syllables can form the superlative either by adding *-est* or by preceding the adjective with *the most*.

happy – the happiest

tangled – the most tangled

In many cases, both forms are used, although one usage will be more common than the other. If you are not sure whether a two-syllable adjective can take a superlative ending, use *the most* instead.

Adjectives with three or more syllables form the superlative by preceding the adjective with *the most*.

beautiful – the most beautiful

Some adjectives do not follow any of the rules explained earlier. They are irregular. Here are the most common irregular adjectives.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
<i>good</i>	<i>better</i>	<i>the best</i>
<i>bad</i>	<i>worse</i>	<i>the worst</i>
<i>far</i>	<i>farther/further</i>	<i>the farthest/furthest</i>
<i>little</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>the least</i>
<i>much/many</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>the most</i>

Short Story Dialogue

– *How are you doing?*

– *I'm OK. And how are you?*

– *I'm fine, thank you! I must say that you look more tired in comparison to when I saw you last time.*

– *Yeah, my life is in **the most complicated** stage now. I'm finishing my studies and... I'm craving for sleep! I try to choose **the healthiest** options when I eat, I try to be **the most active** but it doesn't help when you sleep 4 hours a day.*

– *I totally get you! Life was definitely **in the easiest stages** when we were kids.*

Independent Practice - Degrees of Adjectives – Positive – Superlative

1) Underline the correct word or phrase.

- a. You are truly *the best/the most good!*
- b. This dress is *the most unusual/the more unusual* one you've ever had.
- c. That was *the worst/the worstest* day in their life.
- d. Bill is *the most attentive/most attentive* student I've ever seen.
- e. This was *the funniest/the more funnier* ride ever!

2) Form the superlative degree.

- a. This is (good) movie I've ever watched.
- b. This was (little) favourite option of ours.
- c. Have you heard of (dangerous) animal in Alaska?
- d. You are (smart) person I know.
- e. Who is (rich) man on earth?

Independent Practice: Answers - Degrees of Adjectives – Positive – Superlative

1) Underline the correct word or phrase.

- a. You are truly the best/*the most good*!
- b. This dress is the most unusual/*the more unusual* one you've ever had.
- c. That was the worst/*the worstest* day in their life.
- d. Bill is the most attentive/*most attentive* student I've ever seen.
- e. This was the funniest/*the more funnier* ride ever!

2) Form the superlative degree.

- a. This is **the best movie** I've ever watched.
- b. This was **the least favourite** option of ours.
- c. Have you heard of **the most dangerous** animal in Alaska?
- d. You are **the smartest** person I know.
- e. Who is **the richest** man on earth?

Limiting Adjectives

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of limiting adjectives. They help to define or 'limit' a noun or pronoun by telling which one, what kind, or how many.

***This** sandwich is delicious.*

There are the following categories of limiting adjectives:

a) articles are the most commonly used adjectives. *A, an, the* indicate whether the noun is used indefinitely or definitely.

*There is **a** bed, **a** mirror, **a** wardrobe, and **an** easel in **the** room.*

b) demonstrative adjectives are adjectives that are used to modify a noun so that we know which specific person, place, or thing is mentioned. The most common demonstrative adjectives are *this, that, these, those*.

***This** is July, and **that** girl over there is Judy.*

c) numerals can function as limiting adjectives limiting the noun to a specific number or amount.

***One** chocolate bar, **two** cups of coffee, and **ten** hours of hard work were put into **this**.*

d) indefinite adjectives are used to describe a noun in a non-specific sense. The most common indefinite adjectives are *any, each, few, many, much, most, several, some*. They are often used to describe a noun showing an element of uncertainty.

*There were **several** people in the room.*

In the category of limiting adjectives there are also pronominal and possessive adjectives that will be covered in the following lessons.

Short Story Dialogue

– Mom, do we have **any** cookies left?

– No, we don't. There is **a single** piece of pie in **the** fridge.

– Nah, I don't want **that**. I wanted to make **a** cheesecake so I needed **some** cookies to make **the** dough.

– I'm sorry, dear, but you have to go to **the** shop then if you want to make **this** cheesecake today.

– Hmm, **this** can wait. I'll finish **the** pie then.

Independent Practice - Limiting Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *a, an, the*.

- a. Do you live in house? – No, I live in apartment.
- b. weather was amazing last month.
- c. Ann didn't want to come in as there was dog in room.
- d. Would you like apple?

2) Fill in the gaps with *this, these*.

- a. Whose shoes are
- b. is a great coat.
- c. are our beloved sons.

3) Fill in the gaps with *some, any*.

- a. I got nice presents for you!
- b. She is too bossy so she doesn't have friends.
- c. There isn't juice left.

V. Independent Practice: Answers - Limiting Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *a, an, the*.

- a. Do you live in **a** house? – No, I live in **an** apartment.
- b. **The** weather was amazing last month.
- c. Ann didn't want to come in as there was **a** dog in **the** room.
- d. Would you like **an** apple?

2) Fill in the gaps with *this, these*.

- a. Whose shoes are **these**?
- b. **This** is a great coat.
- c. **These** are our beloved sons.

3) Fill in the gaps with *some, any*.

- a. I got **some** nice presents for you!
- b. She is too bossy so she doesn't have **any** friends.
- c. There isn't **any** juice left.

Pronominal Adjectives

Introduction - Pronominal Adjectives

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of limiting adjectives. They help to define or 'limit' a noun or pronoun by telling which one, what kind, or how many.

This sandwich is delicious.

In the category of limiting adjectives there are pronominal adjectives. Pronominal adjectives are pronouns which are used to modify nouns. They would be pronouns if they stood by themselves in the place of the noun that they represent.

***This** book is interesting. (This is a pronominal adjective. It modifies the noun 'book'.)*

***This** is an interesting book. (This is a pronoun. It represents the noun 'book'.)*

Pronominal adjectives can be subdivided into the following groups:

a) demonstrative adjectives (*this, that, these, those*).

***Those** shoes were old-fashioned. **These** shoes are much better.*

b) possessive adjectives (*my, your, his, her, its, our, their*).

***Their** cat likes to sleep on the floor.*

c) distributive adjectives (*each, every, either, neither*).

***Every** attempt was met with suspicion.*

d) interrogative adjectives (*which, what, whose*).

Whose pants are these?

e) indefinite adjectives (*some, any, all, few, several, many, both, little, much, more, most*).

Both parents were present.

Short Story Dialogue

– **Whose** book is this?

– This is **my** book. I've been reading it for **several** days.

– The title of **this** book looks really catchy.

– Yeah, I won't deny that. And I have this new year's resolution to read **more** books, so I thought that I would give **this** book a try.

– **What** books do you usually read though?

– Hmm I like to read **some** fantasy or sci-fi novels. And the plot has to be interesting!

– Yeah, I agree with **your** opinion.

Independent Practice - Pronominal Adjectives

1) Underline the pronominal adjectives and decide whether they are demonstrative, possessive, distributive, interrogative, or indefinite.

- a. Thank you! These flowers are beautiful.
- b. Every child has the right to life.
- c. Which colour should I pick? Red or blue?
- d. I'm afraid he will need several days to recover.
- e. It is said that neither side of the brain is dominant over the other.
- f. I don't find that TV show amusing.
- g. I like her new haircut. It looks stylish.
- h. I could tell that the dog was happy to see me by its wiggling tail.
- i. Those seconds of pure happiness were difficult to forget.
- j. Do you know whose jacket this is?

Independent Practice: Answers - Pronominal Adjectives

1) Underline the pronominal adjectives and decide whether they are demonstrative, possessive, distributive, interrogative, or indefinite.

- a. Thank you! These flowers are beautiful. (demonstrative adjective)
- b. Every child has the right to life. (distributive adjective)
- c. Which colour should I pick? Red or blue? (interrogative adjective)
- d. I'm afraid he will need several days to recover. (indefinite adjective)
- e. It is said that neither side of the brain is dominant over the other. (distributive adjective)
- f. I don't find that TV show amusing. (demonstrative adjective)
- g. I like her new haircut. It looks stylish. (possessive adjective)
- h. I could tell that the dog was happy to see me by its wiggling tail. (possessive adjective)
- i. Those seconds of pure happiness were difficult to forget. (demonstrative adjective)
- j. Do you know whose jacket this is? (interrogative adjective)