CIB ARTwork

1. What are adjectives?

Adjectives tell us **something about a person or a thing**.

2. What do adjectives modify?

Adjectives can modify **nouns** or **pronouns/names**.

person	thing
Mandy is a **nice girl**.	This is a **nice car**.
Mandy is **nice**.	**The car** is **nice**.
She is **nice**.	**It** is **nice**.

3. Where do adjectives go?

An **adjective** can be put **before the noun**. Then it is an attribute.

person	thing
Mandy is a **careful girl**.	This is a **nice car**.

An **adjective** can be put **after** the **verb to be *(is)***. This is called predicative position.

person	thing
The girl **is careful**.	This car **is nice**.

Adjectives can go after the following verbs:

- **appear**
- **become**
- **feel**
- **get**
- **go**
- **keep**
- **turn**

When we speak about what something **looks** like, **smells**, **sounds** and **tastes** – we use the adjective.

- I **feel great**.
- She **looks good**.
- It **seems impossible**.
- The steak **smells fantastic**.

4. Can adjectives be used without nouns?

Yes, adjectives can be used without **nouns**. Mind the definite article *the*:

- the **rich** = **rich people**

Here is an example from the fairy tale *Cinderella*:

- *"The **good** must be put in the dish, the **bad** you may eat if you wish."*

Here is another example with nationalities in the plural:

- The **Scottish** live in the North of the United Kingdom.

5. Can two or more adjectives be used together?

Yes, if you use more adjectives you can put them in front of the noun:

- a **fat old cat**

or you can put them after the verb (e.g. *to be*). In this case **and** is placed between the last two adjectives.

- It was **cold**, **wet** **and** **windy**.

6. Adjectives, ending in *-ing and -ed*

There are adjectives ending in *-ing* and *-ed*. These are participle constructions, used like adjectives. Here are some examples:

A) Here the adjective is put before the noun:

- Yesterday I read an **amusing story** in a magazine.
- Doris has a **boring job**.
- We watched the group of **excited people**.

B) Here the adjective is put after the verb:

- I **was** not at all **amused** by the discussion.
- Children **get bored** very quickly.
- The end of the film **was** really **exciting** for me.

Source: englisch-hilfen.de