

Lesson 8

Adjectives

An **adjective** is a word that modifies a noun or pronoun by limiting its meaning.

shiny toaster **friendly** neighbor **horrible** accident **green** bird **that** book

Articles are the adjectives *a*, *an*, and *the*. *A* and *an* are indefinite articles. *The* is the definite article.

Possessive pronouns, such as *my* and *our*, can be considered adjectives because they modify nouns. Similarly, possessive forms of nouns, such as *Roger's* and *the captain's*, can also be considered adjectives.

A **proper adjective** is formed from a proper noun and begins with a capital letter.

Cervantes was a **Spanish** writer. The **Korean** restaurant is very popular.

► **Exercise 1** Underline the adjectives, including articles, possessive pronouns, possessive forms of nouns, and proper adjectives in each sentence.

The weary rebels climbed the hill to the fort.

1. The weight lifter grunted and groaned trying to lift the heavy barbell.
2. The hungry boy ate a juicy hamburger and a tossed salad.
3. My little brother loves Chinese food.
4. Where did you get that beautiful coat?
5. The designers changed the basic design of the popular model.
6. A good hiking boot needs a sturdy sole.
7. We watched the little silvery fish jump completely out of the water.
8. His mother watched the new sitcom on Monday night.
9. This music is putting me in a relaxed mood.
10. Wooden tent stakes have been replaced by plastic or metal ones.
11. Whose car is parked in front of your apartment?
12. Because of the dense fog, the nervous detective could see only a dim outline of the figure.
13. Michael's new puppy loves to chew on things.
14. Probably the hottest new sport in town is in-line skating.
15. All the excited fans cheered on their favorite tennis star.
16. Kristin brought some Norwegian cookies her grandmother made to the club's last party.

17. Trevor really wanted the lead role in the play, but his tryout was a disaster.
18. Juwan's sister donated her old computer to the new club.
19. Please take off that awful mask!
20. The international student in our class is a Brazilian.

► **Exercise 2** Complete each sentence by adding an appropriate adjective in the space provided.

That was the most interesting book I've ever read.

1. Sylvia unpacked her _____ jacket.
2. The actor gave a _____ portrayal of the downtrodden farmer.
3. The _____ traveler stared at the icy glass of water.
4. The women entered the _____ store.
5. We gave the _____ server a generous tip.
6. Samantha bit into the ripe, _____ peach.
7. The _____ knife cut the roast easily.
8. People consider Lucas a very _____ boy.
9. The teacher seems to like _____ paintings.
10. My brother's _____ motorcycle is in the garage.
11. _____ food can be really tasty.
12. The _____ girl is the captain of the volleyball team.
13. The inspector confiscated the _____ diamonds.
14. My aunt and uncle's vacation in Colorado was a _____ experience.
15. Her best friend moved to a town in the _____ part of the state.
16. Tracy's favorite class was the one on _____ literature.
17. It's _____ to climb on the bridge.
18. I like any kind of _____ music.
19. The _____ person who came around the corner was a police officer.
20. The _____ article about the school's dress code was written by the assistant editor.

Lesson 9

Adverbs

An **adverb** is a word that modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb by making its meaning more specific. Adverbs modify by answering the questions *when? where? how?* and *to what degree?*

We left **early** for the soccer game. (The adverb *early* modifies the verb *left* by answering the question *when?*)

Janine waited **there** for the bus. (The adverb *there* modifies the verb *waited* by answering the question *where?*)

The nurse **quietly** shut the door of the hospital room. (The adverb *quietly* modifies the verb *shut* by answering the question *how?*)

Very few things in life are **completely** perfect. (The adverb *completely* modifies the adjective *perfect* by answering the question *to what degree?*)

Negative words, such as *not* and its contraction *-n't*, are also considered adverbs. Other negative words such as *nowhere*, *hardly*, and *never* can also function as adverbs.

The boat has **not** arrived. I have **never** eaten squid.

► **Exercise 1** Circle the word or words modified by the adverb in italics. On the blank, write *v* if the adverb modifies a verb. Write *adj.* if the adverb modifies an adjective. Write *adv.* if the adverb modifies another adverb.

 v Whitney *almost* cleared the hurdle.

- _____ 1. I've seen Alison at the nursing home *very* often.
- _____ 2. Ben *easily* made the cross-country team.
- _____ 3. Our class had a *really* fantastic time on the field trip to the science museum.
- _____ 4. Two hundred people had *already* ordered tickets.
- _____ 5. *Sometimes* nice guys do finish first.
- _____ 6. Shannon had a *very* difficult time after the accident.
- _____ 7. Late in the afternoon storm clouds gathered *overhead*.
- _____ 8. Farrah's purse was *nowhere* in the room.
- _____ 9. *Now* and *then*, I wish for something impossible.
- _____ 10. England had not *yet* prepared for war.
- _____ 11. Don't stay out in the sun too *long*.
- _____ 12. Zach would *never* understand his sister and her friends.

- _____ 13. *Almost* every person at the meeting was angry about the decision.
- _____ 14. I'll talk to you *later*.
- _____ 15. Tuyen was *completely* calm when we jumped out and yelled "Happy Birthday!"
- _____ 16. Birds migrate alone *very* infrequently.
- _____ 17. Hand in your paper *today*.
- _____ 18. I don't think she was *entirely* sure what she had said.
- _____ 19. *Only* rarely can gorillas breed in captivity.
- _____ 20. We haven't succeeded yet, but we'll keep on trying.

► **Exercise 2** Underline the adverb or adverbs in each sentence.

Slowly, Marcus made his way to the front of the train.

1. Nicholas timidly thanked me for the birthday gift.
2. Your business with Carol is altogether private.
3. We had scarcely arrived at the park when the storm began.
4. The visiting team arrived late for the big game.
5. Kwan came here looking for you.
6. Louis had not considered that alternative.
7. Mr. Wilson usually hires students during the summer.
8. Gillian is the player who most frequently scores.
9. The votes cast in the third precinct were counted early.
10. Surprisingly, the plane was nearly empty.
11. Janice often runs through the field to the track.
12. The frightened rabbit never knew I only wanted to take its picture.
13. The rink will soon be filled with skaters.
14. Mr. Hernandez caught some bass and perch today in Silver Lake.
15. The referee blew his whistle loudly.
16. The runaway colt has not been seen lately.
17. I really must leave now.
18. We went back to the very dark cave.
19. Cooper was startled enough to scream.
20. Next, our class wholeheartedly applauded the speaker.