



Adjectives

- Adjectives describe nouns. They have the same form in the singular and plural.
a red car - (two) red cars
- Adjectives go before nouns.
a large box
They can also be used alone after the verb **to be** and after verbs such as **look, smell, sound, feel, taste** etc.
Mary is tall. You look sad. It smells horrible.
- There are two kinds of adjectives: **opinion adjectives** (e.g. beautiful, lovely, great, expensive, etc) which show what a person thinks of somebody or something, and **fact adjectives** (e.g. short, square, yellow, cotton, etc) which give us factual information about somebody or something (e.g. size, weight, colour, etc).

Order of Adjectives

- Opinion adjectives go before fact adjectives.
a beautiful silk scarf
- When there are two or more fact adjectives in a sentence, they usually go in the following order:

	Fact Adjectives
size:	small, big, short, long, etc
weight:	heavy, light, etc
shape:	triangular, round, rectangular, square, etc
colour:	dark/light blue, yellow, pink, cream, red, purple, etc
material:	cotton, leather, silk, plastic, woollen, nylon, metal, gold, silver, velvet, wooden, canvas, china, etc

- We do not usually have a long list of adjectives before a single noun.
an expensive, red, leather suitcase

Comparisons

	adjective	comparative	superlative
one - syllable adjectives	cheap large big	cheaper larger bigger	the cheapest the largest the biggest
-y adjectives	easy	easier	the easiest
adjectives with two or more syllables	intelligent	more intelligent	the most intelligent
irregular adjectives	good bad much many little far	better worse more less further/farther	the best the worst the most the least the furthest/the farthest



Form

- One-syllable adjectives add **-(e)r/-(e)st** to form their comparative and superlative forms.
large - larger (than) - the largest (of/in), cheap - cheaper (than) - the cheapest (of/in)
- One-syllable adjectives ending in one stressed vowel between two consonants, double the last consonant and add **-er/-est**.
big - bigger (than) - the biggest (of/in)
- Two-syllable adjectives ending in a consonant + **-y**, drop **-y** and add **-ier/-iest**.
heavy - heavier (than) - the heaviest (of/in)
- Adjectives of two or more syllables take **more/most**.
careful - more careful (than) - the most careful (of/in)
- Irregular adjectives have their own individual comparative and superlative forms.

Note

- We often make comparisons using **than**.
- We use **the** before the superlative form.

Use

- We use the **comparative form** to compare two people, things, places, etc. We usually use **than** with comparative adjectives.
Sue's skirt is longer than Mary's.

- We use the **superlative form** to compare a person, thing or place with the whole group they belong to. We use **the ... of/in** with superlative adjectives.

Pluto is the coldest planet in our solar system.

- We use **(not) as + adjective + as** to say that two people, things or places are/are not similar.
Tom is as tall as Peter.

- We use **less + adjective + than** for two persons, things or places.

The green jacket is less expensive than the yellow jacket.

- We use **much + comparative form + than** for two persons, things or places.

This tie is much longer than that one.

Expressing Certainty

Must - Can't

- We use **must + infinitive without to** to say that something is logically true.
They look the same. They must be twins.
- We use **can't + infinitive without to** to say that something is logically untrue.
This book can't be his. He doesn't like detective stories.

Will (predictions)

- We use **will + infinitive without to** to make predictions based on what we believe or think. We usually use **will** with the verbs **think**, and **expect**, and the adverb **probably**, etc.
I think he will help me.

Comparisons

- 1 Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the adjectives in brackets, as in the example.

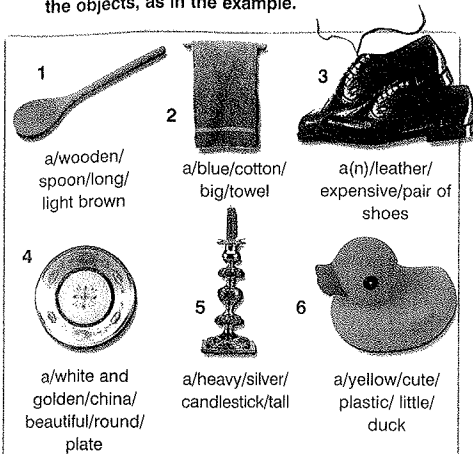
- 1 My house is *bigger* (**big**) than yours.
- 2 Peter is not as (**tall**) as Sally.
- 3 Los Angeles is (**polluted**) than Vancouver.
- 4 That was the (**bad**) meal I've ever eaten.
- 5 Our house is less (**modern**) than yours.
- 6 Celine Dion is very (**famous**).

- 7 They are as (**rich**) as the Browns.
- 8 The Danube is the (**beautiful**) river in Europe.
- 9 This sleeping bag is (**comfortable**) than that one.
- 10 Mary's dress is (**expensive**) than Diana's.
- 11 The red hat is much (**cheap**) than the blue one.
- 12 Asia is the (**large**) continent in the world.



Order of Adjectives

- 7 Put the adjectives in the correct order to describe the objects, as in the example.



a long, light brown, wooden spoon

- 8 Write five true sentences about things you have in your room or items of clothing you wear as in the example.

I always wear soft white leather training shoes.

- 9 Read the following letter and put the adjectives into the correct order.

Dear Sir/Madam,

I recently stayed for three days at your hotel in room 23. I believe I left a(n) 1) (brown/expensive/leather/purse) in my room. It has a(n) 2) (silk/red/shiny/lining) and there is a(n) 3) (metal/small/round lock) on the top. There wasn't much money inside, but it contained a lot of 4) (photos/old/precious). I am almost sure I left it on the 5) (table/square/wooden) or under the 6) (small/lovely/sofa/green) in the corner.

If you find it, please return it to me as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,
James Stuart

Expressing Certainty

- 10 Look at the pictures and make sentences using *must/can't*, as in the example.



- 1 they / on holiday / at school
They can't be on holiday. They must be at school



- 2 she / at work / on holiday
.....



- 3 they / at café / at work
.....



- 4 it hot outside / cold
.....



- 5 they / in the country / in the city
.....



- 6 he / play tennis / type
.....