

Adjectives

adjective position; adjective order; *-ing/-ed* adjectives;
 nouns as adjectives

1

A Context listening

A1 Look at the things in the pictures. Which of the adjectives in the box can you use to describe them? You can use some more than once.

beautiful long short black grey white cotton leather silk wool



A long black.....



B



C



D



E

A2 **1** You are going to hear a conversation between Callum and Emily. What are they doing? Which of the things in A1 do they talk about?

A3 Listen to the first part of the recording again and answer these questions.

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 Who is tired? <u>Callum</u> | 5 Who is bored? |
| 2 Who is excited? | 6 What is interesting? |
| 3 What is tiring? | 7 What is exciting? |
| 4 Who isn't really interested in clothes? | |

What is the difference between adjectives ending in *-ed* and *-ing*? Finish the sentences.

We use adjectives ending in to describe people.

We use adjectives ending in to describe things and people.

A4 Listen to the second part of the recording again and fill in the gaps.

- 1 a lovely..... skirt
- 2 my boots
- 3 those trainers

Look at the adjectives you've written.

Which describe:

someone's opinion?

colour?

size or shape?

the material?

What kind of adjectives usually go first?

What kind of adjectives usually go last?

1

B Grammar

B1 Adjective position

Adjectives usually go before nouns:

I bought a white T-shirt. (not a T-shirt white)

▲ Adjectives don't change. (**not** *some whites T-shirts*)

Adjectives go after some verbs (e.g. *be, get, become, look, seem, appear, sound, taste, smell, feel*):

They're comfortable and they'll look good with the skirt.

The material felt really soft.

▲ A few adjectives (e.g. *afraid, alone, asleep, awake*) cannot go before a noun:

The cat was asleep on the bed. (not The asleep cat was on the bed.)

→C1

B2 Adjective order

When there are two or more adjectives, they go in this order:

	opinion	size/age/shape	colour	materials	
a	lovely	short	black	wool	skirt
a	beautiful		grey	leather	bag
my	favourite	long	black		boots
some		old	blue		jeans

We put *and*

◆ between two colour adjectives: *a black and white belt*

◆ between two adjectives after a verb: *Clothes shops are always boring and crowded.*

▲ We don't say *my favourite and long and black boots*

→C2

B3 Adjectives ending in *-ing* and *-ed*

Some adjectives have two forms: *-ing* and *-ed*. The adjectives have different meanings:

<i>-ing</i> adjectives describe people and things	<i>-ed</i> adjectives describe feelings
<i>Clothes shops are boring.</i>	<i>I'm bored.</i>
<i>That's surprising news.</i>	<i>We're surprised.</i>
<i>Computer shops are interesting.</i>	<i>You're not interested in clothes.</i>

→C3

B4 Nouns used as adjectives

When we put two nouns together, the first one works like an adjective, e.g. a *birthday party*: *birthday* tells us what kind of party it is.

a birthday party, a clothes shop, a computer game, a language school, a student card

→C4, C5

C Grammar exercises

C1 Match the halves of these sentences.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 My boyfriend sounded <u>d</u> | a tired because I got up too early. |
| 2 The school was | b bad so we didn't drink it. |
| 3 My boss seemed | c wonderful because it was home-made. |
| 4 We got | d sad on the phone. |
| 5 The bread tasted | e angry but she was just in a hurry. |
| 6 I was feeling | f wet because we didn't have our raincoats. |
| 7 The milk smelled | g unusual because it had no rules. |

C2 Rewrite these sentences adding the adjectives in brackets.

- My friend gave me a ring for my birthday. (*silver/antique*)
My friend gave me an antique silver ring for my birthday.
- I wore my jeans when I painted the ceiling. (*old/blue/dirty*)

- I borrowed my sister's dress to wear to the party. (*silk/lovely/long*)

- I was surprised that Mike wore that jacket. (*white/cotton*)

- He bought some shoes yesterday. (*expensive/new*)

- Jenny's father gave her a necklace for her 18th birthday. (*long/gold/beautiful*)

C3 Underline the correct adjective in each sentence.

- That was an interesting/interested lesson.
- My parents were tiring/tired after the long flight.
- We were boring/bored so we went to the cinema.
- I enjoy my job but it's very tiring/tired.
- You'll be surprising/surprised when I tell you what happened.
- We were exciting/excited about seeing Michael again.
- All the programmes on TV tonight look boring/bored.
- I'm staying in an amazing/amazed hotel.
- My friend was annoying/annoyed with me because I was late.
- Hans is interesting/interested in art so I took him to the Picasso exhibition.

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C4 Match a noun in A with each noun in B then complete the sentences below.

A	address alarm bus city credit football evening film fire police traffic wedding	B	book boots car card centre clock engine invitation jam performance star stop
---	--	---	--

<i>address book</i>	<i>alarm clock</i>
.....
.....
.....

- 1 I bought a new *alarm clock* because I couldn't wake up in the morning.
- 2 Everyone was looking at the as she came into the hotel.
- 3 The café wouldn't accept my so I paid cash.
- 4 I usually clean my when I get home from a match.
- 5 We couldn't get tickets for the so we went in the afternoon.
- 6 Our teacher was late because there was a big on the motorway.

C5 Read this email and look at the adjectives. There are eight mistakes. Correct them.

Hi Sally

I can't see you next week because I'm going on holiday with my parents.

We always stay near a ~~town very small~~ *very small town* on the coast. There is a lovely and sandy beach and the sea is clear and warm. The town has lots of old beautiful buildings. My parents like going to the galleries art but I get boring so I go to the shops. You can buy cheaps clothes there.

I hope we go to my restaurant favourite.

Write back and tell me all your excited news.

Duncan

D Exam practice

Reading Part 2

The people below all want to hire bikes for short trips.
 On the next page there are eight cycle trips in a tourist information brochure.
 Decide which trip would be the most suitable for the following people.
 For questions **1–5**, mark the correct letter (**A–H**).

1



David is an experienced cyclist. He has a couple of days to spend on his hobby of bird-watching. He has a small tent and wants to get away from the crowds.

2



Ian and his daughters Kim and Kylie would like an easy bike ride with time to play on the beach and have a swim in the sea. They have a picnic with them.

3



Nadine and Lee are interested in old buildings. They don't mind a few hills, but don't want to go to the mountains. They'd like to go to a restaurant for lunch.

4



Elizabeth enjoys cycling to keep fit, but she must be at home in the evening. She enjoys drawing and taking photographs of unusual natural scenery.

5



Zoe and Bea don't want to cycle very far and they can't start early in the morning. They're interested in art and would like to have lunch somewhere near the sea.

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RECOMMENDED CYCLE RIDES FROM AILSEA

- A** Seaview Gallery (less than an hour's ride along the coast road) shows paintings and photographs by local artists in attractive rooms on the cliffs. Open 2pm–5pm. There's a teashop next door which serves delicious lunches and teas.
- B** An excellent destination for families is Ailsham, where there is a campsite. The route includes only one tiny hill and the views of woods and farmland are lovely. Stop for a picnic under the trees. When you arrive, enjoy a swim in the river, then spend a night in one of the tents provided.
- C** Picnic at Ailmouth Castle after a two-hour cycle ride along the coast. For five hundred years it has stood on the cliffs, looking down on the dangerous black rocks and waves far below. Now it's a beautiful old ruin. Remember your camera, because you'll want to photograph it at sunset.
- D** If you enjoy really brilliant scenery and don't mind starting early, go to the mountains for the day. You'll want to bring your camera with you for the amazing rocks, quiet pools and exciting waterfalls. The return journey is all downhill, so you can get back quickly in the afternoon.
- E** This pleasant flat route uses the pretty little lanes which follow the coast to an excellent sandy beach, less than an hour away. There's plenty of room for ball games and it's very safe to swim. A pleasant day out for anyone who can ride a bike.
- F** A good day's bike ride through attractive countryside away from the coast brings you to Otterbourne Hall, a historic house open to the public. You can enjoy a surprisingly cheap but delicious lunch in the cosy restaurant, and then you'll be pleased to discover that there are no steep hills on the return route.
- G** Perfect for active young cyclists who enjoy being alone in beautiful scenery. Leave in the afternoon to catch the wonderful sunset from high in the mountains. Camping is permitted for up to two nights. See wild birds and animals among the rocks and trees.
- H** Only half an hour's ride away at Fendwich, is a popular new restaurant with amazing views across the beach. Eat a delicious lunch and watch the birds on the cliffs, then look round the souvenir shops before cycling back along the coast. An excellent trip if you don't have a whole day available.

Grammar focus task

Put the two adjectives in each sentence into the correct order. Check your answers by finding them in the text.

- 1 He told us about the *black/dangerous* snakes in the jungle. dangerous black
- 2 There was a *beautiful/old* tree in the middle of the field.
- 3 We followed a *flat/pleasant* path beside the river.
- 4 The model wore a *little/pretty* hat which matched her coat.
- 5 The old couple employed two *active/young* students to tidy their garden.
- 6 We went to a concert by a *new/popular* band.