

Adjectives



'How to be Top' English Work Book

CHAPTER 2

- **ADJECTIVES**

- TYPES**

- ❖ common
 - ❖ proper
 - ❖ possessive
 - ❖ numerical
 - ❖ demonstrative
 - ❖ intensive
 - ❖ identifying
 - ❖ indefinite
 - ❖ interrogative
 - ❖ relative
 - ❖ compound

- ❖ Degrees of Comparison

- **COMPREHENSION** (Catching snakes)
- **WRITING** – a report (descriptive)
- **Some homophones/homonyms**

ADJECTIVES



Adjectives describe nouns.

hurt kitten, **happy** baby, **delicious** food etc. NOTE: The adjective can appear after the verb 'to be' (is /am /are /was /were /will be /has been etc.) The kitten is **hurt**. The baby was **happy**. The food is **delicious**.

TYPES

- * **common** [juicy steak.]
- * **proper** naming adjective – has a capital letter [a **Wynberg** boy]
- * **possessive** shows possession [**his** book; **my** eyes; **your** nose; **our** school etc.]
- * **numerical** shows number of [**first** child, **three** men, **fourth** time]
- * **demonstrative** demonstrates a specific object [**this** ...; **that**...; **these**...; **those**....]
- * **intensive** [the **very** boy]
- * **identifying** [the **same** story]
- * **indefinite** [**other**..., **neither**..., **both**..., **every**..., **some**...]
- * **interrogative** asks a question [**which** boy?]
- * **relative** **who**, **which** or **that** after a noun. [the car **that** was stolen...the girl **who** was murdered, the lamp **which** glows..]
- * **compound** **happy-go-lucky** fellow, a **devil-may-care** attitude.

Exercise 1 Write down the underlined adjectives, identify **their type/kind** and say **which nouns** they describe.

Imagine my dismay
Lady, having sunk in
same position that
Robinson Crusoe,



know then that this barren island, uninhabited except for wild beasts and sea birds, was to be my home for fifteen years. As I was not a down-in-the-mouth kind of fellow, I determined to set about providing something for my supper. Which birds were fit to eat I did not know but I took my trusty rifle and shot a large one. The sound that the shot made was very loud. It must have been the first shot fired on the island since the creation of the world.

when, the English trader, Sea
heavy seas, I found myself in the
that other ship-wrecked mariner,
had found himself. I was not to

(15 X 2)[30]

Exercise 2 Write down all **20 adjectives** to be found in this passage and say what type each one is.

“Which boy has done this dreadful deed?” demanded the Science master in a thunderous voice, looking at the shattered glass on the laboratory floor. There was a deadly silence as three, small boys slowly emerged from their ill-concealed hiding place. The first boy, who emerged, said timidly, “It was my fault, Sir. I tripped over that chair and dropped some test-tubes.”



“No sir, it was our fault,” piped up both loyal friends.

(20x2)[40]

Exercise 3 Give the **Proper adjectives** for people who live in:



- a. Glasgow _____
- b. Scotland _____
- c. Russia _____
- d. Greece _____
- e. France _____
- f. Italy _____

- g. Rome _____
- h. China _____
- i. Java _____
- j. Holland _____



DEGREES OF COMPARISON

Exercise 4 Fill in the spaces:

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE (two)	SUPERLATIVE (more than two)
strong	Stronger	strongest
happy		
dry		
hungry		
good		
many		
painful		
beautiful		
silly		
lively		
easy		
bad		
few		
little		
dead		
unique		

Exercise 5 Give the correct form of the word in brackets. Write the correct word in the space provided.

- a. (Far) talks are to take place. _____
- b. He is (skillful) than you think he is. _____
- c. I got the (little) number of marks in the class. _____
- d. Have you heard any (late) news? _____
- e. She is the (good) friend I have ever had. _____
- f. The films are starting (late) this year than last year. _____
- g. He is (famous) than his father. _____
- h. The weather is (bad) than it has ever been. _____
- i. Please give me (little) food than my brother. _____
- j. Who is the (fast) runner of the three? _____

[10]

COMPREHENSION **Catching Snakes – G Durrell – The Overloaded Ark.**

"I shall have to cut the whole tree down," I said to John. "All right," he replied, "only wish we could get rid of this crowd. If it makes a run for it, someone will get bitten." "Don't worry," I said soothingly, "if it does make a run for it, they'll get out of the way quickly enough."



I started to hack at the trunk of the tree. Now, the stem of a banana tree is deceptive. It looks quite solid, but in reality it is soft and fibrous and juicy, and very easily cut. This I did not know, so it was with considerable surprise that I felt the blade of the machete go right through the trunk at my second swipe, and the whole tree crashed earthwards. That it should fall exactly where John was standing was pure bad luck. With an agility of which I would not have thought him capable, he leapt to one side, and the tree missed him. The bunch of bananas was broken off by the fall and rolled and bounced its way across the ground to his feet, and the snake fell from it, wriggling angrily.

The crowd, as I had predicted, faded away, and John was left facing the angry snake with nothing between them but a length of flimsy net. Apparently I had misjudged the size of the snake, for he proceeded to wriggle through the net with the greatest of ease, and then, before John could do anything to prevent it, slithered between his legs and off into the undergrowth. It was useless to search for him in that thick mass of bushes, so I started to disentangle the net from the wreck of the banana tree.

Answer these questions in **FULL SENTENCES** in your **own words**. (No mark for incomplete sentences.)

- a. What was John's main concern? (2)
- b. This is a true story. These events took place in Cameroon. Find two objects in the text that would typically found in an equatorial country. (2)
- c. The narrator (story-teller) is a **first-person narrator**. Quote a word that is typical of this type of narration. (1)
- d. What miscalculations had the writer made? (2)
- e. In what way was John unlucky? (2)
- f. How was an injury prevented? (2)
- g. What happened to the crowd? Which word gives you the clue? (2)
- h. Who was in the most uncomfortable position? Why? (3)
- i. How do you know the snake was not as big as Durrell had thought it was? (2)
- j. Why was John fortunate at this stage? (2)
- k. Give your own antonyms (opposites) for:
flimsy, capable, angry, prevent (4)
- l. Write down (you must use quotation marks) 3 adjectives from the passage that describe the stem of the banana tree. (3)
- m. What is the collective noun for bananas given in this passage? (1)
- n. Quote another collective noun found in this passage. (1)
- o. Name the type of adjective in *second swipe*. (1)

[30]

Exercise 6 Fill in the missing **adjectives** to complete these proverbs.

- a. No news is _____ news.
- b. Necessity knows _____ law.
- c. First come _____ served.
- d. Enough is as _____ as a feast.
- c. Prevention is _____ than cure.

[5]

Revision Tests.

Exercise 7 Underline the adjective in each of the following sentences.

- a. I watched the dark mountains on the mainland.
- b. He gave his horse a touch with a whip.
- c. In the distance we could hear a roaring lion.
- d. They refused this offer of help.
- e. The sound of distant thunder reached our ears.
- f. The Greek shipping magnate, Aristotle Onassis, was killed in an accident.
- g. The good-for-nothing chap deserves no charity.
- h. The first time I was there, I loved it.
- i. She has won the British Lottery.
- j. He wants some pudding.



[10]

Exercise 8 Give the correct form of the adjective in brackets.

- a. That is a [good] way than this. _____
- b. We have had [little] trouble this time than last time. _____
- c. It was the [little] he could have done. _____
- d. There is nothing [far] that we can do. _____
- e. Who is the [old] of the two brothers? _____ [5]

Some
homophones (words that sound the same)
 and **homonyms** (words that look the same).

• **to / too / two** [to write; go **to** the beach / **too** tired / **two** boys]

Exercise 1 Fill in the correct word:

- a. If you try _____ chase _____ animals, you will catch neither.
- b. Eat _____ live but do not live _____ eat.
- c. You can see more with one eye than with _____.
- d. It is _____ late _____ make amends once the person has died.
- e. It takes _____ _____ make a quarrel, but it is never _____ late
_____ ask for forgiveness.
- f. I shall go _____ the dentist tomorrow. [11]

• **of / off** [the name **of** my school; get **off** my chair.]

Exercise 2 Fill in the correct word:

- a. Lookers-on see most _____ the action.
- b. Never put _____ till tomorrow what you can do today.
- c. My dog ran _____ with my shoe.
- d. A man who is full _____ words not deeds is like a garden full _____ weeds.
- e. He cut _____ his finger with a chain saw. [6]

• **their / there** [Their car is red. / Plant the tree **there**.]

Exercise 3 Fill in the correct word:

- a. Go _____ on your way home.
- b. They went to a movie with _____ parents.
- c. _____ are ink stains on _____ clothes.
- d. _____ luggage was _____ before them.
- e. They handed _____ essays to _____ teacher. [8]

• **theirs / there's** [The car is **theirs**. / **There's** a river nearby.]

Exercise 4 Fill in the correct word:

- The blue jerseys are _____ not ours.
- I shall cover the chair if _____ enough material left.
- _____ less than half left.
- This is yours. The others have taken _____.
- _____ is the only House with a chance of winning.
[5]

• **whose / who's** [**whose** book is this / **who's** done this?]

Exercise 5 Fill in the correct word:

- _____ been eating my lunch?
- Jo asked _____ shoes they were.
- This is the girl _____ purse I found.
- Go and see _____ knocking on the door.
- He was a man _____ only hobby was reading.
[5]



• **DO not confuse lend / borrow** [may I **borrow** your pen? / I will **lend** you my pen.]

Exercise 6 Fill in the correct word:

- Peter may _____ my bat if he will _____ me his fishing-rod.
- If you _____ money you may not be able to repay it.
- If you _____ money you may not get it back.
- If I _____ you my book you must promise not to _____ it again.
[6]