

English

Adjectives

| Rule / Concept | Explanation / Examples | Exceptions / Notes |
|---|--|--|
| Adjective of Quantity vs Number | <i>Much, Little, Some</i> (quantity); <i>Many, Few, Several</i> (number) | Don't use "much" with countable nouns (e.g., × much books) |
| Order of Adjectives | Opinion → Size → Age → Shape → Colour → Origin → Material → Purpose → Noun (OSASCOMP) | Ex: A <i>beautiful small old round red Indian wooden cooking bowl</i> |
| Comparative and Superlative Forms | <i>Big → Bigger → Biggest, Beautiful → More beautiful → Most beautiful</i> | Do not use "more" or "most" with double comparatives (e.g., × more better) |
| Use of 'than' with Comparative | Always use "than" with a comparative adjective | Ex: He is taller than his brother |
| 'The' with Superlative Adjective | Always use 'the' before superlatives | Ex: She is the best player |
| Double Comparatives / Superlatives | Never use two comparatives/superlatives together | × more wiser → <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> wiser; × most tallest → <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> tallest |
| Use of 'very' and 'much' | "Very" with positive degree; "Much" with past participles/comparatives | Ex: Very good, Very tall; Much improved, Much better |
| Elder / Older | <i>Elder</i> = family relation; <i>Older</i> = general age | Ex: My elder brother (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>); My older phone (<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>) |
| Farther / Further | <i>Farther</i> = physical distance; <i>Further</i> = figurative/abstract | Ex: Delhi is farther; We need further discussion |
| Few / A Few / The Few | <i>Few</i> = none; <i>A few</i> = some; <i>The few</i> = all that exist | Ex: Few students passed (almost none); A few students passed (some); The few students who passed (specific) |
| Little / A Little / The Little | <i>Little</i> = almost none; <i>A little</i> = some; <i>The little</i> = all that is available | Ex: Little water (negligible); A little water (some); The little water left (limited amount) |
| Use of same / such / quite | <i>Same</i> takes "as"; <i>Such</i> takes "as"; <i>Quite</i> = completely | Ex: He is the same as you; It was such a nice day; It is quite wrong |
| 'Less' vs 'Fewer' | <i>Less</i> = uncountable; <i>Fewer</i> = countable | × Less people → <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fewer people; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Less milk |
| Use of Positive Adjective with 'as...as' | Use positive degree between "as...as" | Ex: She is as tall as her sister (not taller) |
| Use of 'Enough' | "Enough" comes after the adjective/adverb, but before noun | Ex: He is strong enough ; We have enough time |
| Each / Every | <i>Each</i> = individual; <i>Every</i> = group | Each boy was called; Every boy in the class passed |
| 'Latter' vs 'Later' | <i>Latter</i> = second of two; <i>Later</i> = after some time | He came later; Of the two brothers, the latter is taller |
| Use of Distributive Adjectives | <i>Each, Every, Either, Neither</i> always followed by singular noun & verb | Each student has a book; Neither boy was present |

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| 'Only' Adjective Rule | Should be placed right before the word it modifies | Ex: Only he solved it (not anyone else); He only solved it (not explained) — different meanings |
| Use of Adjectives after Verbs | <i>Be, Seem, Become, Appear, Feel, Look, Sound, Taste, Remain</i> followed by adjectives (not adverbs) | Ex: She looks happy (✓), not happily (✗) |



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