

Parts of Speech - Adjectives

- Almost all words have a “part of speech”. Which part of speech a word has depends on how it is used in a sentence. Here is a list of the eight parts of speech:

Noun Verb Adjective Adverb Conjunction Preposition Pronoun Interjection

Adjective: An adjective is a word or phrase that is used to modify a noun or pronoun.

Example: The snake is long and green.

- In this example, *long* and *green* are adjectives because they modify the noun *snake*.
- Some words modify nouns that are *not* adjectives. These are attributive nouns. They are not predicative of the noun, so they are not adjectives.

Example: The painting is extremely old.

- In this example, *old* is an adjective because it modifies the noun *painting*. However, *extremely* is not an adjective. It modifies the adjective *old*. Therefore it is an adverb.

Example: The baseball team is good.

- In this example, *baseball* modifies *team*. However, *baseball* is not an adjective because it is not predicative of the noun - *the team is not baseball*. *Good* is the only adjective in the sentence - *the team is good*.

Directions: Underline the adjectives in the following sentences.

- 1) The motorcycle is old.
- 2) Today is cloudy, hot, and humid.
- 3) The man wearing a blue suit is young.
- 4) The runner is very fast.
- 5) He is a good basketball player.
- 6) Alamance Community College is a great place to learn.
- 7) The blue bus is late.
- 8) The rusty truck has an oversized trailer.
- 9) Jaime is so smart!
- 10) The job was difficult, but manageable.
- 11) The house has new plumbing and running water.
- 12) The silly man laughed uncontrollably.
- 13) The boy said he was sorry.
- 14) The intoxicated gentleman wasn't sure if the clock was fast or slow.
- 15) "A cleaner environment," he trenchantly stated, "is the key."

Directions: Now make two of your own sentences using adjectives.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____