

Unit 1 : Adjectives and Adverbs

What is an adjective and how do I use it?

It is a word that describes a person, thing, animal, place or other nouns. It describes how that person, thing, animal, place or other noun **is**.

An adjective has **no extra suffix** (word ending).

*Susan is **happy**.*

*Susan is a **happy** pupil.*

1.1 Exercise:

Write an **adjective** in every gap. It must give the sentence a correct sense.

My father is _____ .

My cats are _____ .

I think my friend is _____ .

This school is _____ .

Our trip was _____ .

Their welcome was _____ .

What is an adverb and how do I use it?

It is a word that describes a **verb**. It describes how a person, animal (thing) **does an activity**.

An adverb in English usually **has a suffix** (word ending): **-ly / -lly / -ily / -ically**

*Susan speaks **loudly**.*

*Susan sings **beautifully**.*

*Susan smiles **happily**.*

*Susan dances **frantically** (= wild und ausgelassen).*

*Susan talks **in a friendly way**.*

Be careful with the spelling:

-le → -ly (terrible → terribly)

-ful → -fully (beautiful → beautifully)

-y → -ily (happy → happily)

-ic(al) → -ically (historical → historically)

-ly → in a friendly way (friendly → in a friendly way)

1.2 Exercise:

Write an **adverb** in every gap. Use the adjective in brackets to form this adverb.

- My father speaks _____ (hectic).
- My cats behave _____ (strange).
- I think my friend runs _____ (quick).
- This school was built _____ (perfect).
- Our trip ended _____ (beautiful)
- They welcomed us _____ (friendly).

Exceptions (= Ausnahmen)

Some words are both **adjective and adverb**.

They have only **one** form. There is no **-ly suffix** (ending).

*Susan is a **fast** driver.*

*Susan drives **fast**.*

*Susan's work is **hard**.*

*Susan works **hard**.*

*Susan is always **early / late**.*

*Susan always comes **early / late**.*

Others: high / low, right / wrong, long (= mostly one syllable words)

Be careful 'False Friends':

*She **hardly** works.*

*Sie arbeitet **kaum**.*

***Lately**, he came home late.*

***In letzter Zeit**, kam er spät nach Hause.*

1.3 Exercise:

Write an **adverb or adjective** from the list in the box in every gap. It must give the sentence a correct sense.

- My father speaks _____ (?).
- My friend behaved _____ (?).
- I think my friend will come _____ (?).
- This school was built _____ (?).
- Our trip ended _____ (?).

Special case (= Sonderfall)

good	-	well
<i>Susan is good at Maths.</i> <i>Susan is a good Maths student.</i>		<i>Susan can do Maths well.</i> <i>Susan does Maths well.</i>
adjective		adverb

1.4 Exercise:

Tick the correct form (*good or well*) for every gap.

- 1) My father speaks Spanish **good.** **well.**
- 2) He was **good** **well** at Spanish at school.
- 3) I always give my cats **good** **well** pet food. But they don't like it.
- 4) My cats never behave **good** **well.** They always try to bite me.

Adjectives only after special verbs

1. Adjectives after verbs of **perception** (*Sinnesverben*): **look / feel / sound / smell / taste**

*I **look and feel** good. He **smells** good. The ice-cream **tastes** delicious.*

2. Adjectives after verbs of **being** (*Zustandssverben*): **become / get / seem**

*He **became** red in his face. I am **getting** nervous now. They **seem** nice.*

1.5 Exercise:

a) Choose the correct form for every gap.

- 1) My father got _____ (**angry**) when he heard about the broken window.
- 2) Before our English tests my friend seemed _____ (**nervous**).
- 3) This R&B music sounds _____ (**fantastic**).
- 4) Yummy! These cookies that your sister has baked smell and taste _____ (**great**).

B) Form four (4) sentences on your own. Use these words.

* seem – easy

* get - hungry

* look – frightened

* smell - ugly

.....

TEST your language skills on Adjectives and Adverbs

Test 1 - Decide if the words in brackets should be adjectives or adverbs.

Who's there?

It was almost 12 o'clock at night. Everything in the house was _____ (**quiet**).

Mrs Miller was in her bed upstairs. Suddenly, she heard a _____ (**scary**)

sound. She listened _____ (**careful**), but she only heard the cars

outside in the street. "This doesn't sound _____ (**right**)", the woman

said to herself. Mrs Miller got _____ (**nervous**). However, she tried

_____ (**hard**) to sleep again. Then there was another sound, and something fell

_____ (**loud**) onto the floor downstairs. "There must be somebody in the

house", she cried _____ (**excited**).

Mrs Miller opened her eyes _____ (**hectic**) and got out of bed. She opened

the door _____ (**slow**) and walked _____ (**quiet**)

downstairs. There she saw a _____ (**bright**) light under the kitchen door. Who's

there!

The woman opened the wooden door with energy and saw sausages, tomatoes, bread and butter

on her kitchen table. "This looks _____ (**familiar**)", she thought. Then

she heard a soft voice: "We couldn't sleep and we were so _____

(**hungry**)! " This voice sounded very _____ (**familiar**), too. She

was looking around and noticed that the two children who were sitting around her table were her

daughter Helen and her son John.

"Take one last bite, clean the table and then go back to bed _____ (**fast**)! How

could you scare your mother so _____ (**terrible**)!

Solutions:

Unit 1: Adjectives and Adverbs

1.1 Exercise

My father is	<i>athletic / old / strict / ...</i>	
My cats are	<i>cheeky / curious / cute / ...</i>	
I think my friend is	<i>nice / honest / great / ...</i>	
This school building is	<i>old / big / large / ...</i>	
Our trip was	<i>interesting / boring / long / ...</i>	
Their welcome was	<i>happy / friendly / cold / ...</i>	(Adjektive wegen Verb 'to be')

1.2 Exercise

...	<i>hectically</i>	
...	<i>strangely</i>	
...	<i>quickly</i>	
...	<i>perfectly</i>	
...	<i>beautifully</i>	
...	<i>in a friendly way</i>	(Adverbien wegen Tätigkeitsbeschreibung)

1.3 Exercise

...	<i>fast</i>	
...	<i>wrong</i>	
...	<i>late</i>	
...	<i>fast / right</i>	
...	<i>early</i>	(Adverbien, die nur diese eine Form besitzen)

1.4 Exercise

well
good
good
well

1.5 Exercise

A)							
...	<i>got angry</i>						
...	<i>seemed nervous</i>						
...	<i>sounds fantastic</i>						
...	<i>smell and taste great</i>						(Adjektive nach Sinnes-/ Zustandsverben)

B)

Today's homework seems easy.
Around noon most students get hungry.
My cats looked frightened.
These flowers smell ugly.

Test 1

...	<i>quiet</i>	<i>scary</i>	<i>carefully</i>	<i>right</i>	<i>nervous</i>	<i>hard</i>	<i>loudly</i>
	<i>excitedly</i>	<i>hectically</i>	<i>slowly</i>	<i>quietly</i>	<i>bright</i>	<i>familiar</i>	<i>hungry</i>
	<i>familiar</i>	<i>fast</i>	<i>terribly</i>				