

5 Adjectives and adverbs

Adjective or adverb?

Exercise 67

Indicate by *adj* if the final word of the sentence is an adjective, or by *adv* if it is an adverb:

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 The sun burnt the grass quickly. | 11 What made my bed so hard? |
| 2 It burnt the grass black. | 12 We shall leave the house early. |
| 3 He drove his employees hard. | 13 We shall leave the room empty. |
| 4 He drove some of them mad. | 14 I can paint your hall pink. |
| 5 I find this very unlikely. | 15 I can paint this wall fast. |
| 6 We found the people friendly. | 16 Pull the rope hard. |
| 7 This made everyone late. | 17 Pull the rope tight. |
| 8 I have made his acquaintance lately. | 18 He turned the corner well. |
| 9 The doctor soon made the patient well. | 19 The heat turned the milk sour. |
| 10 We can make breakfast early. | 20 You must wipe the windscreen clear. |

Adjective phrases

Exercise 68

Rewrite the following sentences, replacing the relative clause in each by an adjective phrase, remembering that such a phrase can be realized by a single word:

- 1 Will all students who are married please raise their hands?
- 2 Will all students who are interested write their names on this list.
- 3 I don't wish to know the names of the people who were involved.
- 4 All the women who were present looked up in alarm.
- 5 We should call the doctor who is nearest.
- 6 We must find the doctor who is concerned.
- 7 What are the best seats that are available?
- 8 Can you recommend something that is really interesting?
- 9 I have a problem that is much more complicated.
- 10 I have a problem that is much more complicated than that.
- 11 The road that is best to take is the A 40.

- 12 The people who are most difficult to understand are often members of one's own family.
- 13 I have never met a person who was so difficult to understand as my husband.
- 14 You couldn't find anyone who is more difficult.
- 15 What I would like to do is to go somewhere where it is really quiet.

Adjective as head of a noun phrase

Exercise 69

Replace the phrase underlined by a noun phrase with an adjective as head, when such replacement is permissible.

- 1 Robin Hood robbed rich people in order to pay those who were poor.
- 2 The injured people were conveyed in ambulances to the General Hospital.
- 3 The injured man lay unattended for several hours.
- 4 If those who are blind lead others who are blind, both will fall into the ditch. *the blind* *the other blind*
- 5 He sat there as silent as if he were a dumb man.
- 6 Does anyone know the dead man's name? *name of the dead man*
- 7 Always speak well of those who have died. *the dead*
- 8 I fear he is no longer in the land of those who live. *the living*
- 9 Fear of what is unknown often makes people conservative. *the unknown*
- 10 Nothing is so certain to happen as something that we do not expect. *the man*
- 11 These seats are reserved for men who have been disabled. *the disabled*
- 12 The English country gentleman galloping after a fox - what is unspeakable in full pursuit of something he cannot eat. *the uncatchable*
- 13 Wise men are often confounded by a foolish man.
- 14 The nurse sleeps sweetly, hired to watch those who are sick, whom, snoring, she disturbs.
- 15 Have you heard the latest news?

Verbless adjective clauses

Exercise 70

When it is possible to do so, rewrite the following sentences using a verbless adjective clause.

- 1 The men were eager to begin the climb and they rose at first light.
- 2 The summit, which was bare and bleak, towered above them.
- 3 They studied the cliff face: it was perpendicular.
- 4 They found a ledge which was narrow enough for one man.
- 5 They were thoroughly exhausted as they crawled into their sleeping bags.
- 6 They could hardly stand, as they were stiff in every joint.
- 7 When the snow was fresh, it afforded no sure foothold.
- 8 The wind was keen as a razor and drove them back into the shelter of their tent.

- 9 Though their tent was as light as a feather, somehow it remained firm.
- 10 The rescue party brought them down to the base camp: they were half-dead with the cold.

Inherent adjectives

Exercise 71

If the adjectives in the following sentences are inherent in the context, say *Yes*; otherwise *No*:

- 1 A ^apoor man is not necessarily ^bunhappy.
- 2 The ^aprecise answer is not, as it happens, very ^bprecise.
- 3 A ^astrong supporter does not need to be ^bstrong.
- 4 The ^aperfect solution was found by a ^bperfect genius.
- 5 The ^amain argument is not, of course, the ^bonly one.
- 6 A ^abig eater is quite often a ^bbig man.
- 7 A ^ahard worker may well have a ^bsoft heart.
- 8 A ^acriminal lawyer does not usually have a ^bcriminal record.
- 9 A ^acomplete victory may be won by a ^bcomplete rogue.
- 10 A ^acertain friend of mine is by no means ^bcertain of the outcome of the negotiations.
- 11 The people ^apresent are waiting for the result of the ^bpresent talks.
- 12 Men who spend days in a ^alunar module are ^breal heroes.

Categories of adjective

Exercise 72

Classify the adjectives as used in the following phrases by putting the number of the phrase in the appropriate frame below:

- 1 a true scholar
- 2 the chief reason
- 3 afraid of mice
- 4 utter stupidity
- 5 my entire salary
- 6 very unwell
- 7 a healthy man
- 8 the principal cause
- 9 a clear road
- 10 a medical school
- 11 a possible friend
- 12 a possible reason
- 13 a faint impression
- 14 feeling faint
- 15 pure water
- 16 a particular place
- 17 fond of icecream
- 18 the late President
- 19 my old grandfather
- 20 the solar system

Attributive only

A Intensifiers

B Limiters

C Related to adverbials

D Denominal

E Predicative only

F Central

Dynamic and gradable adjectives

Exercise 73

Copy out the tables below and use them to classify the adjectives listed, putting a tick (✓) in the *a* column if the adjective can be dynamic, a dash (-) if it cannot be, and so on:

- a = 'dynamic', as in He is being careless.
- b = 'gradable', as in He is very tall.
- c = 'subjective', as in He is most annoying.
- d = 'negative', as in He is utterly wrong.

<i>Takowny</i>	a	b	c	d		a	b	c	d
1 greedy					11 married				
2 asleep					12 obstinate				
3 heavy					13 new				
4 kind					14 separate				
5 lazy					15 deaf				
6 stupid					16 tactful				
7 thin					17 interesting				
8 generous					18 timid				
9 buddhist					19 busy				
10 early					20 delightful				

Comparison

Exercise 74

Write down, and pronounce, the comparative and superlative of these adjectives:

- 1 able
- 2 bored
- 3 boring
- 4 clever
- 5 cruel
- 6 dear
- 7 dry
- 8 fat
- 9 fertile
- 10 free
- 11 frequent
- 12 gentle
- 13 healthy
- 14 narrow
- 15 obvious
- 16 real
- 17 true
- 18 useful
- 19 violent
- 20 well

Participial adjectives

Exercise 75

Indicate by a tick (✓), otherwise by a dash (-), if the participles listed below can be

- a used as attributive adjectives
- b used as predicative adjectives
- c modified by *very, too* or *so*

	a	b	c		a	b	c
1 amazing				11 known			
2 broken				12 limited			
3 confused				13 moved			
4 damaged				14 opposed			
5 damaging				15 pleased			
6 defined				16 surprising			
7 forgotten				17 tiring			
8 furnished				18 trained			
9 insured				19 unsettled			
10 interesting				20 written			

Exercise 76

The participles listed below can all be used as attributive adjectives modified by *very* provided they are compounded with another element, e.g. *good* in *a very good-looking man*. Supply 'another element' that would be acceptable:

1 based	11 informed
2 behaved	12 kept
3 built	13 known
4 cooked	14 lighted
5 defined	15 made
6 disposed	16 managed
7 dressed	17 shaven
8 educated	18 thought out
9 expected	19 used
10 humoured	20 written

Adverbs

Exercise 77

Rephrase the following sentences using an adverb instead of the adjective underlined:

- 1 John is a very careful driver.
- 2 Sue has a very good pronunciation of English vowels.
- 3 Dick's behaviour is more courteous than Bob's.

- 4 Of the two, Bob is the clearer speaker.
- 5 Bob is a very much harder worker.
- 6 Barrington is not nearly such a fast runner.
- 7 Radford makes a far less scientific approach to his subject.
- 8 Henrietta is a most brilliant dancer.
- 9 Last night's play made a considerable impression on me.
- 10 In an auction, the highest bidder has to pay.
- 11 Jones is a much more friendly teacher than Johnson.
- 12 There has been a much more rapid increase in the number of street accidents in the last ten years.

Exercise 78

Identify the adverb(s) in each of the following sentences. Then classify it/them as *A, B, C*, etc: see below. Where there are two adverbs in a sentence, refer to the first as *a*, the second as *b*:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Shut the door quickly | 11 I haven't met him yet |
| 2 You are quite right | 12 Yet I feel I know him |
| 3 He plays surprisingly well | 13 I hope to meet him soon, though. |
| 4 Hardly anyone came | 14 We left home so early |
| 5 It is rather a pity | 15 We are almost at the station |
| 6 I am right for once | 16 That cost almost a pound |
| 7 His room is right at the end | 17 It's about double the normal price |
| 8 Wait until afterwards | 18 I didn't say anything, naturally |
| 9 Answer me honestly | 19 He is really very kind |
| 10 Honestly, I don't know | 20 In fact, he is quite a nice man |

- A *Adjunct* B *Modifying an adj.* C *Modifying an adv.*

--	--	--

- D *Modifying a prepositional phrase* E *Modifying a determiner*

--	--

- F *Modifying a noun phrase* G *Complement of preposition*

--	--

- H *Disjuncts* I *Conjuncts*

--	--