

Lesson 152

Parts of the Sentence - Adjectives

Adjectives modify or affect the meaning of **nouns** and **pronouns** and tell us *which, whose, what kind, and how many* about the nouns or pronouns they modify. They come before the noun or pronoun they modify except for the **predicate adjective** which comes after a **linking verb** and modifies the **subject**.

Examples of adjectives:

The big brown bear grabbed **the scared small** man.

(**The, big, and brown** modify the subject **bear** and **the, scared, and small** modify the direct object **man**)

Examples of predicate adjectives:

The big bear is **brown**. The brown bear was **big**.

(**brown and big** come after the linking verbs **is** and **was** and modify the subject **bear**)

There are seven (7) words in the English language that are always adjectives. They are the **articles** *a, an, and the* and the **possessives** *my, our, your, and their*. (The possessives are from the possessive pronoun list but are always used with nouns as adjectives.) Being only seven in number, one should memorize them so they are immediately recognized as adjectives.

Adjectives that point out **what kind** are most common and too numerous to list. **Big, brown, scared, and small** above are examples.

Instructions: Find the **adjectives** that tell **what kind** in these sentences and tell what they modify.

1. The tall man is a professional baseball player.
2. That lovely old lady wrote realistic short plays.
3. A loud and noisy group greeted the returned missionary.
4. The small but strong man helped the cute little girl.

5. A tall slender girl won the beauty contest.