

Lesson 155

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.

Instructions: Find the **predicate adjectives** in these sentences, tell what they modify, and what they tell us.

1. The performance was hilarious.
2. The two girls were tired and exhausted.
3. My father is old but strong.
4. This fish tastes too salty.

5. Has she been sick recently?