

Adjective

A word that tells about a noun or a pronoun.

An adjective tells what kind, which one, how many, or how much.

An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun or pronoun. An adjective answers the question *What kind? Which one? How many?* or *How much?* about a noun or a pronoun. More than one adjective may be used to describe a noun or a pronoun.

EXAMPLES

What kind? We stayed in a **small beach** house.

Which one? I live in **that** house.

How many? We have lived in **five** states.

How much? He had **some** money.

Activity A Some of the adjectives in these sentences are in bold. Write the adjectives on your paper. Next to the adjective, write the noun that the adjective describes.

Example David bought an **expensive new** reel.

expensive new—reel

- 1) What a **fantastic summer** vacation they had at the lake!
- 2) We did not have **enough** time to do everything.
- 3) On the **first** day we were there, Vince caught a **huge** fish.
- 4) The **next** day, David hooked **three** trout.
- 5) At night, a **big black** bear came into **our** camp.

Activity B Rewrite these sentences on your paper. Add one or more adjectives before each noun in bold.

- 1) Students brought **books** to **class**.
- 2) **People** brought **food**.
- 3) **School** started early.
- 4) I saw **mountains** and **rivers**.
- 5) Diana planted **tomatoes** and **cucumbers**.

Most adjectives come before the noun that they are describing. Adjectives may, however, follow the noun for emphasis. Then, they are set off from the rest of the sentence with commas.

EXAMPLES

The **sleepy** child was crying.

The child, **sleepy and hungry**, was crying.

Predicate adjective

An adjective that follows a linking verb and tells about the subject.

A **predicate adjective** comes after the noun or pronoun it describes.

EXAMPLES

He was **sleepy and hungry**.

They seem **happy**.

Activity C Find the adjectives in these sentences. Write them on your paper. Beside each adjective, write the noun or pronoun that the adjective describes.

- 1) The lake was beautiful on that morning.
- 2) The water was clear and cool.
- 3) David saw a large fish jump out of the sparkling water.
- 4) Vince used a trusty old rod.
- 5) The boys fished for eight hours.
- 6) For a long time, nothing happened.
- 7) They remained hopeful.
- 8) By late afternoon, they had caught many fish.
- 9) They were tired but happy with themselves.
- 10) Vince told funny stories as they rode home.

Lesson 1 Review

Part A Some of the adjectives in these sentences are in bold. Write them on your paper. Beside each one, write the noun or pronoun that the adjective describes.

- 1) In October, the weather can be **chilly**.
- 2) David decided to wear a **heavy** coat.
- 3) He had **several** classes on Wednesdays.
- 4) David's **favorite** class was math.
- 5) Math was **easy** for him.
- 6) He drove to the college in **his** car.

Part B Rewrite these sentences on your paper. Add as many adjectives as you can to each sentence. Circle all the adjectives in your sentences.

- 1) Diana has a dog.
- 2) David bought a coat.
- 3) The fisher cast a line into the lake.
- 4) It was morning.
- 5) The store had a sale.
- 6) I have a job.
- 7) Ray plays piano.
- 8) Annie's jacket has a hole in it.

The articles *a*, *an*, and *the* are always used as adjectives. They are placed before nouns in sentences. The definite article is *the*. Use *the* when you are talking about a particular person or thing. The indefinite articles are *a* and *an*. Use *a* or *an* when you are talking about a general group of people or things.

EXAMPLES

Sharon wanted to go to a movie.
(Sharon does not have a particular movie in mind.)

Vince would like to see an adventure movie.
(Vince wants to see any adventure movie.)

Eli saw the movie yesterday.
(Eli saw a particular movie.)

Use the article *a* before a word that begins with a consonant sound.
Use the article *an* before a word that begins with a vowel sound.

EXAMPLES

a large apple	an apple
a hard assignment	an assignment
a mistake	an honest mistake

The article *a* is used with singular nouns. The article *the* can be used with singular and plural nouns.

EXAMPLES

I bought a book.
(*Book* is singular.)

David bought the book.
(*Book* is singular.)

He bought the books.
(*Books* is plural.)

Activity A Write these sentences on your paper. Circle all of the articles.

- 1) The math class was the first class of the day.
- 2) The students had a homework assignment.
- 3) The first part of the class was easy.
- 4) The class discussed the answers to the problems.
- 5) “I got a different answer to the problem,” Jamal said.
- 6) The teacher explained the problem.
- 7) She used an overhead projector.
- 8) Later she handed out a new assignment.

Activity B Write the article that should appear in each sentence to make it correct.

- 1) Suki packed (a, an) apple for her lunch.
- 2) They waited for (a, an) hour.
- 3) The teacher spoke in (a, an) soft voice.
- 4) They had (a, an) English lesson.
- 5) I read (a, an) article about elephants.
- 6) He had (a, an) message for his boss.
- 7) Look up the topic in (a, an) index.
- 8) They saw (a, an) horror movie.
- 9) Not (a, an) cloud was in sight.
- 10) Jack is (a, an) honest man.

Lesson 2 Review

Lesson Review Write the article that should appear in each sentence to make it correct.

- 1) Look at (a, the) blue coat in the window.
- 2) Did you enjoy eating (a, the) peaches?
- 3) Mrs. Jones put (a, the) groceries on the table.
- 4) We went to New York City to see (a, an) play.
- 5) Chicago is (a, an) American city.
- 6) They did (a, the) activity in class.
- 7) A hammer is (a, an) useful tool.
- 8) Did you see (a, the) pencils I left here?
- 9) Where is (a, an) envelope?
- 10) I was in (a, an) earthquake in California.
- 11) We have (a, an) eight-foot tree in our yard.
- 12) Have you ever seen (a, an) bald eagle?
- 13) (A, The) snakes crawled on a rock to sun themselves.
- 14) They did (a, an) math activity.
- 15) "What (a, an) awful day this has been!" she said.
- 16) What happened to (a, the) flower vase?