

SENTENCE ESSENTIALS - ENC 0002
ADJECTIVES - REVIEW

ADJECTIVES modify nouns or pronouns in the following ways:

- they DESCRIBE:
*The **young** puppy was confined to the **muddy** yard.* [*young* describes *puppy*, and *muddy* describes *yard*]
- they tell WHICH ONE:
*The **following** people need to work this weekend.* [*following* tells which people]
- they tell HOW MANY or HOW MUCH:
*I only had **five** dollars left; that wasn't **enough** money.* [*five* tells how many dollars; *enough* tells how much money]
- they tell WHOSE [this includes possessive nouns and pronouns]:
*I left **my** car at **Jake's** house.* [*my* tells whose car and *Jake's* tell whose house]
- the NOUN MARKERS *a*, *an*, *the* always indicate that a noun will follow
*There is **a** discussion going on about **an** important issue concerning **the** college.*
- NOUNS THAT PRECEDE OTHER NOUNS become adjectives since they become describers.
*The **paper** airplane flew across the room.* [*paper* is a noun used here as an adjective to describe *airplane*.]
- PARTICIPLES [*-ing* and *-ed* words plus the irregular past participles] become adjectives when they describe nouns
*The **frozen** dessert tasted good to the **waiting** customers.* [*frozen* and *waiting* are participles used here as describers]

POSITION OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives usually appear BEFORE the nouns they describe.

*That is a **pretty** picture.* [*pretty* describes *picture*]

They may also appear AFTER a linking verb. [see list of linking verbs on p. 194]

*That picture is **pretty**.* [*pretty* here also describes *picture* but comes after the linking verb *is*]

COMPARATIVES & SUPERLATIVES OF ADJECTIVES

The **COMPARATIVE** form of an adjective compares **two** persons or things. [see chart on page 196]

*Ellen is **funnier** than John.* [-y and 1-syllable adjective (like *funny*) use **-er** to compare two people or things]

*Maria is **more talkative** than her sister.* [2 or more-syllable adjectives (like *talkative*) use **more** to compare two things]

The **SUPERLATIVE** form of an adjective compares **three or more** persons or things [see chart on page 196]

*He is the **friendliest** person I know.* [1-syllable and -y adjective uses **-est** to compare three or more things]

*Joe is the **most talkative** person I know.* [2 or more-syllable adjectives use **most** to compare three or more]

Watch out for the following adjectives that have irregular comparative and superlative forms:

<u>adjective</u> (describes 1)	<u>comparative</u> (compares 2)	<u>superlative</u> (compares 3 or more)
<i>good</i>	<i>better</i>	<i>best</i>
<i>well</i>	<i>better</i>	<i>best</i>
<i>little</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>least</i>
<i>some, much, many</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>most</i>
<i>far</i>	<i>farther/further</i>	<i>farthest/furthest</i>
<i>bad</i>	<i>worse</i>	<i>worst</i>

Circle the ADJECTIVES (including noun markers) in the following sentences.

1. This week's handouts are yellow and white.
2. In five minutes, there should be more people here.
3. May I borrow your car since the battery is dead in mine.
4. Every time I tried to call you, I got a busy signal.
5. The movie tickets to our first choice were gone, so we bought tickets to another one.
6. You must be careful that you do not cut yourself on the broken glass.
7. There are only a few books left in the cooking section of the local bookstore.
8. Many people will be out of their jobs if the new corporate take-over goes through.
9. Our new boss is sympathetic, fair, and approachable.
10. Have you seen AOL's new screensaver that is available to its subscribers?

CIRCLE THE ADJECTIVE according to directions, and DRAW A LINE to the word it modifies.

11. the adjective that tells **whose**: Pat's new puppy has curly brown hair.
12. the adjective that tells **which one**: Of those movies, I liked *The Last of the Mohicans*.
13. the adjective that tells **how many**: I have read several of the new books by Dan Brown.
14. the adjective that **describes**: I enjoyed the *DaVinci Code* because it was interesting.
15. the adjective that **describes**: The *DaVinci Code* was an interesting book.

Fill in the blank with the correct COMPARATIVE or SUPERLATIVE form of the given adjective.

16. (short) Joe is _____ than his younger brother.
17. (happy) Marlene is the _____ person I know.
18. (far) Which city is _____ from Miami: Orlando or Ocala?
19. (bad) Do you think the damage from Hurricane Katrina was _____ than from Wilma?
20. (independent) My friend Lisell is the _____ person I know.
21. (good) The grades on this week's test were _____ than last week's.
22. (beautiful) Of all the people in the chorus, Mary has the _____ voice.
23. (fresh) If you want the _____ seafood anywhere, you should drive down to the Keys.
24. (relaxing) That was the _____ day I have had in a long time.
25. (happy) Dan always seems _____ when he is working than when he isn't.