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Adjectives are words used to tell us more about people or things. Some adjectives give us *factual* information about the noun (age, size color, etc.) while other provide someone's evaluation or judgement about something or somebody (nice, horrid, beautiful, etc.). In this article, we'll look at these two types of adjectives and how they are used in our speech.

Adjectives usually **describe nouns** and go **before** the nouns without changing their own forms.

- This is a **nice** house.
- It's a rainy day.
- There are many **ripe red** apples on the tree.

Sometimes adjectives go *after* the verbs like 'be', 'become', 'get':

- The sky is **blue**.
- In autumn tree leaves become **yellow** and **red**.
- It's getting **late**, we need to go.

Adjectives can belong to different **categories**, each containing a number of **types**.

In English adjectives can be **fact** and **opinion**.

# **Fact adjectives**

Fact adjectives provide **factual** information about the object they describe, e.g. its *color*, *size*, *material*, etc.

- I saw a **big** car passing by the street (size type of adjective).
- Young boys and girls go to school (age type of adjective).
- Mary likes to wear **white** dresses in summer (color type of adjective).
- The box is **square**, and the ball is **round** (shape type of adjective).
- Tom brought a small **porcelain** cup from his trip to China (material type of adjective).



• Do you like **Vietnamese** food? (origin type of adjective).

## **Opinion adjectives**

When we need to describe **our thoughts** about somebody or something, we can use opinion adjectives, such as 'nice', 'beautiful', 'friendly', etc.

### General opinion

- Some of them express **general opinion** (general opinion adjectives):
  - I have a **beautiful** cat. (beautiful can describe various things)
  - My lovely dog plays all day round.

### **Specific opinion**

- Others may express more **specific opinion** (specific opinion adjectives):
  - The meal is **delicious** (**delicious** is normally used to talk about food).
  - Emily is a **kind** person (**kind** is normally used to talk about people).

Note: Understanding of fact and opinion adjectives helps to put adjectives in the <u>correct order in a sentence</u>. The general rule says that if fact and opinion adjectives are used in one sentence, **opinion adjectives go before fact adjectives**.

Check out this video from World English 808 to learn more about fact and opinion adjectives and their usage:

More on adjectives:

Common and Demonstrative Adjectives

The Order of Adjectives