

# 04 Complex descriptions

When you describe something using more than one adjective, the adjectives usually have to go in a specific order. There are several categories of adjectives.

⚙️ **New language** General and specific adjectives

Aa **Vocabulary** Personalities

🧩 **New Skill** Ordering adjectives

## 4.1 KEY LANGUAGE ADJECTIVE ORDER

Opinion adjectives come before factual ones in a sentence. General opinion adjectives always come before specific opinion adjectives.



What a **nice**, **friendly** little cat!

"Nice" is a general opinion adjective. It can describe lots of different things.

"Friendly" is a specific opinion adjective. It usually only describes people or animals.



## 4.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES ADJECTIVE ORDER



It's a **fantastic**, **exciting** new movie.



He's a **wonderful**, **kind** old man.



What a **horrible**, **ugly** plastic table.

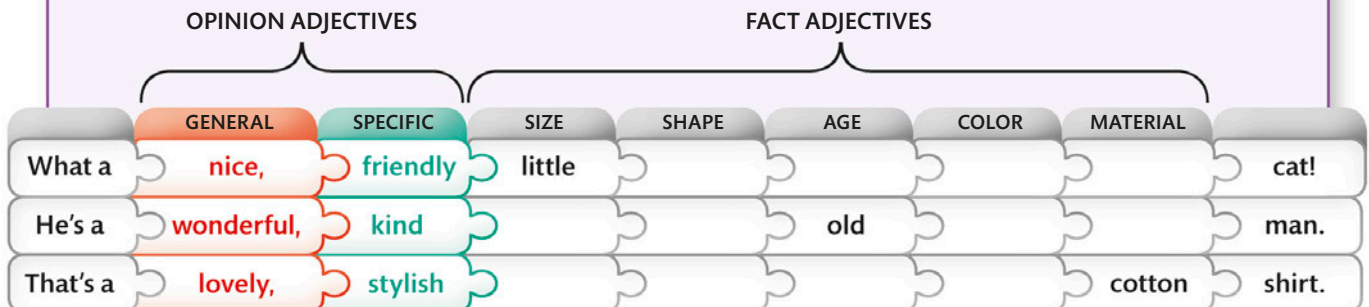


That's a **lovely**, **stylish** cotton shirt.



## 4.3 HOW TO FORM ADJECTIVE ORDER

Like opinion adjectives, fact adjectives must go in a particular order.





#### 4.4 WRITE THE ADJECTIVES FROM THE PANEL IN THE CORRECT GROUPS

GENERAL	SPECIFIC	SIZE	SHAPE	AGE	COLOR	MATERIAL
awful						

~~awful~~ round huge tiny ancient orange oval leather green terrible metal red cruel elderly modern square tasty enormous expensive awesome



#### 4.5 WRITE THE ADJECTIVES IN THE CORRECT ORDER

uncomfortable wooden horrible  
 It's a horrible, uncomfortable wooden chair. I don't want to buy it.

rude terrible

① I don't like him at all. He's a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ man. Let's not invite him to the party.

nice young intelligent

② My mother thinks he's a \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ boy.

brown friendly sweet

③ Dad, look at this \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ puppy! Can we take him for a walk?

comfortable wonderful

④ Should we buy this \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ sofa for the living room? We really need a new one.





## 4.6 READ THE PERFORMANCE REVIEWS AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



### Performance Review: Jorge Perez

Jorge is very hard-working and his confidence has grown considerably since he joined the company last summer. He often looks beyond the immediate issues and is proactive in dealing with any potential problems before they arise. He has shown himself to be fair-minded, and he often helps others in his team. In fact, he has proved that he has a natural flair for communication and leadership. We are delighted that Jorge has recently started a leadership skills course, and we will look to promote him when it is completed.

Jorge has worked for the same company for several years.

True ☐ False ☒ Not given ☐

- 1 The author is pleased that Jorge is taking a leadership course.  
True ☐ False ☐ Not given ☐
- 2 Jorge is going to be promoted next month.  
True ☐ False ☐ Not given ☐



### Performance Review: Maria Moran

Given that Maria works in the HR department, we were hoping that her communication skills would have developed more. Calling one of her colleagues "bone-idle" during an appraisal is typical of her blunt approach. Fortunately, the colleague in question is broad-minded and accepted an apology. Despite taking part in several training opportunities, Maria continues to take a narrow-minded approach to her work. Her refusal to acknowledge other people's opinions can make her seem big-headed and arrogant.

- 3 Maria works in the Sales department.  
True ☐ False ☐ Not given ☐
- 4 Maria has taken part in a number of training courses.  
True ☐ False ☐ Not given ☐
- 5 Maria is fairly broad-minded in terms of her approach to work.  
True ☐ False ☐ Not given ☐



## 4.7 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND MARK THE CORRECT SUMMARY



A manager is talking to her employee, Paul, about his performance at work during the past year.

- 1 On the whole, Paul hasn't really settled in very well in his new role. He is hard-working, but needs to work on his team-building and communication skills. ☐
- 2 On the whole, Paul has settled in really well in his new role. He is a hard-working and popular member of the team, but he needs to work on his communication skills. ☐
- 3 On the whole, Paul has settled in really well in his new role. He is hard-working, but needs to try to become more popular and improve his communication skills. ☐



## 4.8 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE NEGATIVE PREFIXES IN THE PANEL

They were really rude and un friendly.

- 1 His last employer said he was \_\_\_ trustworthy.
- 2 She doesn't realize how \_\_\_ sensitive she is.
- 3 He's 25 now, but he's rather \_\_\_ mature at work.
- 4 I'm afraid she's quite an \_\_\_ efficient worker.

- 5 He gossips and is \_\_\_ kind to his co-workers.
- 6 Her office desk and her work are \_\_\_ organized.
- 7 He makes mistakes because he's \_\_\_ patient.
- 8 She's \_\_\_ loyal to the company.

im      dis      un      in



Aa

## 4.9 FIND 10 ADJECTIVES IN THE GRID AND WRITE THEM UNDER THE CORRECT HEADING

G E X C E L L E N T O N S  
N E B N L L N R T Q E P V  
N D E F J P O P U L A R D  
R I N R E R T I U T C O I  
Q U V U E P C A M D C A I  
E D I S L O Y A L A E C D  
H Z L T S L O Z C O U T Z  
E A V R T S V V J S N I D  
L C M A T U R E G J K V I  
P H I T P A I L I E I E S  
F W C I M P A T I E N T D  
U B C N A F G E I J D L M  
L N Q G A R R O G A N T D

### POSITIVE ADJECTIVES

- 1 helpful
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

### NEGATIVE ADJECTIVES

- 6 disloyal
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_



## 04 CHECKLIST



General and specific adjectives ☐



Personalities ☐



Ordering adjectives ☐