

## Word Order: Adjectives + Nouns

**FORM:**

**subject + verb + adjective + noun**

**USE:**

An **adjective** describes a person, place, or thing.

1. An adjective can come before the noun.  
e.g. *Centre Linguista is a **private** language school.*
2. If the noun comes before the verb “be”, the adjective comes after “be”.  
e.g. *My bicycle is **green**.*  
*My bicycle has **a loud** bell.*
3. Use “a” before an adjective with a consonant or a consonant sound. Use “a”  
before a singular noun, never a plural noun.  
e.g. *McGill University is **a large** university.*
4. Use “an” before an adjective with a vowel sound. Use “an” before a  
singular  
noun only.  
e.g. *Tracy is **an honour** student.*
5. Do not put an “-s” on the adjective when the noun is plural.  
e.g. *Tom and Jerry are **famous** characters.*
6. **Very** makes the adjective stronger. It comes before an adjective.  
e.g. *The classes are very **good**.*

**EXAMPLES:** *Villeneuve drives a fast car.*  
*My car is slow.*  
*My dad has a big car.*

Beginner 1 – Exercise 8 – Word Order: Adjectives + Nouns

Answer the questions using the opposite of each adjective from the box below.

Example: (strong) Is he strong?

No, he isn't. He's weak.

funny	sick	lazy	happy	poor
nervous				
young	weak	overweight	tall	messy

1. (sad) \_\_\_\_\_
2. (old) \_\_\_\_\_
3. (thin) \_\_\_\_\_
4. (rich) \_\_\_\_\_
5. (neat) \_\_\_\_\_
6. (short) \_\_\_\_\_
7. (serious) \_\_\_\_\_
8. (calm) \_\_\_\_\_
9. (healthy) \_\_\_\_\_
10. (hardworking) \_\_\_\_\_

Complete each blank with the affirmative or negative form of the verb "to be". Then choose an adjective from the list below to complete the last blank of each dialogue. Give the opposite of the word in bold.

delicious    smart    ugly    beautiful    selfish    mean

1. Kathy: I'm short. I (a) \_\_\_\_\_ fat. I (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **ugly**.  
Alissa: No, you (c) \_\_\_\_\_. You (d) \_\_\_\_\_, Kathy!
2. Jeanette: This dinner is **terrible!** I'm sorry.  
Guest: No, it (a) \_\_\_\_\_. It's (b) \_\_\_\_\_!

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3. Mike: I (a) \_\_\_\_\_ nervous about this test. I (b) \_\_\_\_\_ **stupid!**  
 Ken: No, you (c) \_\_\_\_\_, Mike. You (d) \_\_\_\_\_! Your average  
 is 95%.
4. Carol: You know Lisa, I love Jim. He (a) \_\_\_\_\_ **kind and generous.**  
 Lisa: Kind and generous? No, he (b) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 He (c) \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Peter: That dress is **perfect** on you, Mary.  
 Mary: Perfect? Oh no, it (a) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 It (b) \_\_\_\_\_.

*Choose an adjective from the list below to complete the following sentences.*

<b>POPULAR</b>	<b>HEAVY</b>	<b>NEW</b>	<b>BUSY</b>	<b>TALL</b>
<b>QUIET</b>	<b>EXPENSIVE</b>	<b>DIRTY</b>	<b>SHORT</b>	<b>LONG</b>

- That is a \_\_\_\_\_ bridge at rush hour.
- It is a \_\_\_\_\_ street. It goes from one end of the city to the other.
- He is a \_\_\_\_\_ movie star. People always ask for his autograph.
- The Empire State Building and the Eiffel Tower are \_\_\_\_\_ structures.
- When he walks in the mud. His shoes are \_\_\_\_\_.
- Mary lives on a \_\_\_\_\_ street in the suburbs. You don't hear any traffic.
- He has \_\_\_\_\_ clothes. His old suit is too small.
- You can walk to the bus stop. It's a \_\_\_\_\_ distance.
- Those grocery bags are very \_\_\_\_\_. Take a taxi home!
- I usually spend two hundred dollars on a pair of shoes. They are very \_\_\_\_\_.