

Extra Notes and Homework (Grade 9) – WEEK 3

INSTRUCTION: Make sure to copy the given notes and exercises in your respective copybooks.

ADJECTIVES

An **adjective** is a word that modifies a noun. Adjectives are words that name or indicate **qualities, features, characteristics** or **properties** of the noun which they modify.

Grades of Adjectives

Gradable adjectives can vary in degree or intensity and therefore can have comparative and superlative forms. See below for rules on how to form the comparative and superlative forms.

The positive grade: which we saw previously, is the quality in the simplest grade.
fast, hard, smart, pretty, clean, large, small, old, easy...

1. The Comparative Grade

1. Comparisons of superiority. In comparisons of superiority, the adjective, which is in the comparative form (see below), is followed by “**than**». **Examples:**

1. Juan runs **faster than** Mark.
2. Angela’s room is **cleaner than** Sue’s.

2. Comparisons of inferiority. To form this type of comparison we can use the conjunctions “**not as...as**” or “**less...than**”. In both cases, the adjective is in the positive grade.

Examples:

1. Mark is not **as fast as** Juan.
2. Sue’s room is **less clean than** Angela’s.

3. Comparisons of equality. With the adjective in the positive grade, we use the conjunction “**as...as**” to form comparisons of equality.

Examples:

1. Mark is **as fast as** Juan.
2. Sue’s room is **as clean as** Angela’s.

Note: We can modify a comparison using a quantifier such as “**much**”, “**a lot**”, “**a little**”, etc.

Examples:

1. Juan is a **lot faster than** Mark.
2. I am a **little taller than** Beth.

2. The Superlative Grade

The superlative grade denotes a quality at its **highest degree** and is formed using the article “**the**” in front of the superlative form of the adjective (see below).

Examples :

- Juan is **the fastest**.
- Angela’s room is **the cleanest**.
- I am **the tallest**.

Note: If the adjective is possessive, we don’t use “**the**”. In addition, we don’t use “**the**” when comparing something with itself.

Examples :

- His **smartest** student is Lisa.
- New York is **coldest** in January.

The “-ed” and “-ing” endings are not only used to form the past and continuous verb tenses; they are used with adjectives as well. These adjectives are made using a verb and one of these two terminations, but be careful because the meaning of the adjective changes depending on which ending is used.

“-ed” Adjectives

Adjectives ending in “-ed” indicate or describe feelings.

Examples:

1. John is interested in art.
2. Denise was bored in class.
3. Luke is excited about his new job.

“-ing” Adjectives

Adjectives ending in “-ing” indicate or describe a characteristic of something or someone.

Examples:

1. John is an interesting person.
2. The class was boring, so Denise fell asleep.
3. Luke started an exciting new job.

Note: As mentioned above, the use of one adjective over the other changes the meaning of the sentence.

Examples:

1. Steve is embarrassed. (Meaning: Steve feels embarrassed.)
2. Steve is embarrassing. (Meaning: Steve acts in a manner which is embarrassing.)

The following is a list of some of the more common adjectives ending in “-ed” and “-ing”.

| “-ed” Adjective | “-ing” Adjective |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| alarmed | alarming |
| aggravated | aggravating |
| annoyed | annoying |
| astonished | astonishing |
| astounded | astounding |
| bored | boring |
| captivated | captivating |
| challenged | challenging |
| charmed | charming |
| comforted | comforting |
| confused | confusing |
| convinced | convincing |
| depressed etc... | Depressing etc... |

Exercise 1:

Choose the correct adjective:

1. My nephew was (amusing / amused) by the clown.
2. It's so (frustrating / frustrated)! No matter how much I study I can't seem to remember this vocabulary.
3. This lesson is so (boring / bored)!
4. I'm feeling (depressed / depressing), so I'm going to go home, eat some chocolate, and go to bed early with a good book.
5. I thought her new idea was absolutely (fascinated / fascinating).
6. This maths problem is so (confusing / confused). Can you help me?
7. The teacher was really (amusing / amused) so the lesson passed quickly.
8. The journey was (exhausting / exhausted)! Twelve hours by bus.
9. The plane began to move in a rather (alarming / alarmed) way.
10. He was (frightening / frightened) when he saw the spider.
11. I was really (embarrassing / embarrassed) when I fell over in the street.
12. That film was so (depressing / depressed)! There was no happy ending for any of the characters.
13. I'm sorry, I can't come tonight. I'm completely (exhausting / exhausted).
14. We are going in a helicopter? How (exciting / excited)!
15. Don't show my baby photos to people, Mum! It's so (embarrassing / embarrassed)!
16. It's okay, it's only me. Don't be (alarming / alarmed).
17. My sister is so (exciting / excited) because she is going on holiday tomorrow.
18. I hate long flights, I'm always really (boring / bored).
19. She looked very (confusing / confused) when I told her we had to change the plan.

20. John was (fascinated / fascinating) by Mandarin when he first started learning languages. He decided to study more and now he can speak it fluently.

Exercise 2:

Choose the correct adjective:

1. I am so (relaxing / relaxed) I don't want to move. 2. I find horror films really (frightening / frightened) and not at all fun to watch. 3. Sometimes I get really (frustrating / frustrated) when I can't express myself well in English. 4. We were stopped by a man with a knife who took our money. It was (terrifying / terrified). 5. The programme was really (interesting / interested). 6. She was (overwhelming / overwhelmed) when everyone cheered and we gave her presents. 7. If I feel stressed, I find taking a bath is often (relaxing / relaxed). 8. I am really (tiring / tired); I think I'll go to bed. 9. He's very (interesting / interested) in history. 10. The trip was (overwhelming / overwhelmed), with so many things to do and it was all so new. 11. She is never (satisfying / satisfied) with her work. 12. Cleaning is so (tiring / tired)! I think I'll have a rest! 13. She thought the ride on the rollercoaster was (thrilled / thrilling). 14. I was really (surprising / surprised) when I saw you. I had thought you were on holiday. 15. My grandmother was (shocking / shocked) by the man's bad language. 16. My niece is (terrifying / terrified) of dogs. 17. Thank you so much for the prize! I'm (thrilled / thrilling)! 18. My job is very (satisfying / satisfied), I love helping people. 19. The news was so (shocking / shocked) that she burst into tears. 20. My exam results were great! It's really (surprising / surprised) but good, of course