

Adjectives

An **adjective** modifies a noun or a pronoun. Adjectives tell *what kind, how many, or which one*.

Example:

Three adults and four cubs rested there.

A and *an* are **indefinite articles**. They can refer to any person, place, thing, or idea. *The* is a **definite article**; it refers to a particular person, place, thing, or idea.

Example:

A banana and an apple are on the table.

A **proper adjective** is formed from a proper noun. A proper adjective begins with a capital letter.

Examples:

African history, Scottish bagpipes, Thai cuisine

Use a comma between two or more adjectives if each modifies the noun by itself or if the order can be reversed.

Example:

The sweet, red strawberries were delicious.



Read each sentence. Underline the adjectives and circle the articles. Identify any proper adjectives by drawing two lines under them. Then write the words that the adjectives modify.

- The small boats at the marina bobbed in the rough water.

- There were seventy vessels lined up at the dock.

- Dana wandered down the long dock, searching for a small, gray sloop with an orange jib.

- A team of Australian sailors crowded the deck of a large schooner.

- Some enthusiastic children from an Italian tour waved to the sailors.

- Wild cheers came from a dinghy passing through the channel.

- Then an old, heavy ferry steamed into view.

- The dark, murky water obscured the bottom of the channel.

- Whitecaps were stirred up by a fierce wind.

- A large, busy city is on the Indian coast.

- The fascinating city has a bustling seaport.

- The tropical climate has pleasant, warm, salty breezes.

- You can see colorful scenes in the crowded streets.

- On the financial exchange, Indian merchants rub shoulders with wealthy Middle Eastern traders.

