

Adjective Hunt: Hands-on Practice and Reading Material

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How to use this material

Use this handout after you watch the 5-minute Adjective Hunt video. It has one reading text and three practice activities, all based on the game picture from the video.

- **Level:** elementary to intermediate learners of English
 - **Time:** about 40 minutes
 - **You need:** the game picture, a pen, and a partner or a team
1. Read the rules in "Read first".
 2. Read the passage "A picture from a conference" and answer the questions.
 3. Do Practice 1, 2 and 3. They match Round 1, 2 and 3 of the game.
 4. Check your work with the answer key at the end.
 5. Make your own game with the template and play it with another team.

Read first: adjectives in three steps

An adjective is a word that describes a noun. It tells us what a person, place or thing is like.

Step 1: Where does the adjective go? It goes before the noun, or after the verb "be".

- Before the noun: a **tall** plant, **pink** shoes
- After "be": The plant is **tall**. The shoes are **pink**.
- After "be", join two adjectives with "and": The banner is **large and colourful**.

Step 2: What is the order? When you use two or three adjectives before a noun, follow this order.

Position	Kind of adjective	Examples
1	Opinion	beautiful, lovely, fantastic, elegant
2	Size	tall, large, small, long
3	Shape	round, square, flat
4	Colour	green, grey, pink, white
5	Material	stone, plastic, cotton, wooden
6	Noun	plant, pot, banner, shoes

Example: a **beautiful tall green** plant (opinion, size, colour, noun).

Step 3: Simple or professional? Simple adjectives are correct, but professional adjectives are more exact. Use them in presentations, reports and emails.

Simple	Professional
big	spacious, enormous, vast
nice	elegant, pleasant, stylish
good	excellent, outstanding
very colourful	vibrant, vivid
happy	cheerful, delighted
very clean	spotless
very important	essential
very interesting	fascinating

Be careful: words that end in -ly are usually adverbs, not adjectives. "Beautiful" is an adjective. "Beautifully" is an adverb, so it gets no points in the game.

Reading: A picture from a conference

Look at the game picture, then read the text. The adjectives are the words you will need in the game.



This photo was taken in a large, bright hall at an international education event. On the left, there is a tall white banner with colourful circles. Each circle has one word, such as Culture, Education or Media. In the middle, a beautiful tall green plant stands in a round grey stone pot. Its leaves are small, dark and shiny. On the right, there is another white banner with big black letters and a simple red logo.

A cheerful teacher is standing next to the plant. She is wearing an elegant checked dress with a white collar and comfortable pink shoes. A long blue lanyard with a small name badge hangs around her neck. She looks proud and happy. The floor is smooth and clean, and the long hall behind her is quiet. It is a wonderful day for learning.

A. Answer the questions.

1. Where was the photo taken?
2. What can you see on the left banner?
3. What kind of pot is the plant in?
4. What is the teacher wearing?
5. Which three adjectives describe the leaves?
6. Which two adjectives describe how the teacher feels?

B. True or false?

1. The hall is small and dark.
2. The plant is between the two banners.
3. The teacher's shoes are pink.
4. The banner on the right has blue letters.

C. Count. How many adjectives can you find in the text? Work with a partner and make a list.

Practice 1: Spot It

Find the adjectives. This is Round 1 of the game: 1 point for every correct adjective.

A. Underline the adjectives in each sentence.

1. The tall plant has green leaves.
2. She is wearing pink shoes.
3. The hall is large and bright.
4. The colourful banner is on the left.
5. A small badge hangs on a blue lanyard.
6. The round pot is grey.
7. The teacher looks cheerful.
8. The floor is smooth and clean.

B. Adjective or adverb? Choose the correct word.

1. The dress is (beautiful / beautifully).
2. She smiles (happy / happily).
3. It is a (quiet / quietly) hall.
4. The banner is (bright / brightly).
5. The teacher speaks (clear / clearly).

C. Look at the picture. Write two adjectives for each thing.

Thing	Adjective 1	Adjective 2
the plant		
the banner		
the shoes		
the dress		
the pot		
the hall		

Practice 2: Order It

Put the adjectives in the correct order: opinion, size, shape, colour, material, then the noun. This is Round 2 of the game: 2 points for the first correct team.

A. Put the words in order to make a phrase.

1. plant / green / a / tall / beautiful
2. pot / stone / a / grey / round
3. banner / colourful / a / large / fantastic
4. shoes / pink / lovely / small
5. letters / black / big
6. badge / plastic / a / white / small
7. lanyard / blue / a / long
8. logo / red / a / simple

B. Each phrase has a mistake in the order. Write it correctly.

1. a green beautiful plant
2. a stone round pot
3. pink lovely shoes
4. a white large banner

Practice 3: Upgrade It

Change the simple adjective into a professional one. This is Round 3 of the game: 3 points for each professional adjective.

Word bank: spacious · elegant · vibrant · excellent · cheerful · spotless · essential · fascinating

A. Rewrite each sentence with a word from the word bank.

1. The hall is big.
2. Her dress is nice.
3. The banner is very colourful.
4. The conference was good.
5. The teacher looks happy.
6. The floor is very clean.
7. Education is very important.
8. The talk was very interesting.

B. Write three sentences about the picture. Use one professional adjective in each sentence.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Make your own game

Work in a team. Choose a new picture and write the clues for three rounds, then swap games with another team.

- Choose a picture: a photo, a poster, or a page from a magazine.
- Write the clues in the table below.
- Write the answers on a separate page.
- Swap your game with another team and play.
- Count the points on the score sheet.

Our picture shows:

Round	What to write	Clue 1	Clue 2	Clue 3
1. Spot It (1 point)	A thing in the picture to describe			
2. Order It (2 points)	Mixed adjectives and a noun			
3. Upgrade It (3 points)	A sentence with a simple adjective			

Score sheet

Round	Team Blue	Team Red
1. Spot It		
2. Order It		
3. Upgrade It		
Total		

Game script: what the leader says

Read this script aloud to run the game in class. It follows the video line by line, so one student can be the game leader.

Start

1. "Hello everyone, and welcome! Look at this picture. What can you see?"
2. "Today, this one picture becomes our game: Adjective Hunt!"
3. "Make two teams: Team Blue and Team Red."
4. "Every question has a clue and a short timer. Agree on one answer, then say it aloud."
5. "Round one gives one point, round two gives two points, and round three gives three points."
6. "The team with the highest score wins. Ready? Let's run the game!"

Round 1: Spot It

1. "Round one: Spot It! Find an adjective for each thing in the picture."
2. "Number one. Describe the plant." (Wait 6 seconds.) "Tall. Green. Leafy. One point for each correct adjective."
3. "Number two. Describe the banner." (Wait.) "Colourful and large."
4. "Number three. Describe the shoes." (Wait.) "Pink is correct. Careful: 'beautifully' is an adverb, not an adjective."
5. "Number four. Describe the dress." (Wait.) "Checked and white. Well done!"

Round 2: Order It

1. "Round two: Order It! Adjectives follow an order: opinion, size, shape, colour, material, then the noun."
2. "Put these in order: green, beautiful, tall, plant." (Wait.) "A beautiful tall green plant."
3. "Next: grey, stone, round, pot." (Wait.) "A round grey stone pot."
4. "Last one: colourful, large, fantastic, banner." (Wait.) "A fantastic large colourful banner."

Round 3: Upgrade It

1. "Round three: Upgrade It! Change the simple adjective into a professional one."
2. "The hall is big." (Wait.) "The hall is spacious."
3. "Her dress is nice." (Wait.) "Her dress is elegant."
4. "The banner is very colourful." (Wait.) "The banner is vibrant."

Finish

1. "Time to count the scores!"
2. "Team ... wins. Well done, both teams!"
3. "Now it is your turn. Choose a picture, write clues for three rounds, and swap games with another team."

4. "The more you play, the more professional your English becomes. Thank you, and happy hunting!"

Answer key

Reading A

1. In a large, bright hall at an international education event.
2. Colourful circles. Each circle has one word, such as Culture, Education or Media.
3. A round grey stone pot.
4. An elegant checked dress with a white collar, comfortable pink shoes, and a long blue lanyard with a small name badge.
5. small, dark, shiny
6. proud, happy ("cheerful" is also correct)

Reading B

1. False. The hall is large and bright.
2. True.
3. True.
4. False. The letters are black.

Reading C: the text has 31 different adjectives: large, bright, international, tall, white, colourful, beautiful, green, round, grey, stone, small, dark, shiny, big, black, simple, red, cheerful, elegant, checked, comfortable, pink, long, blue, proud, happy, smooth, clean, quiet, wonderful.

Practice 1A

1. tall, green
2. pink
3. large, bright
4. colourful
5. small, blue
6. round, grey
7. cheerful
8. smooth, clean

Practice 1B

1. beautiful
2. happily (an adverb, because it describes the verb "smiles")
3. quiet
4. bright
5. clearly (an adverb, because it describes the verb "speaks")

Practice 1C (example answers): plant: tall, green, leafy. Banner: colourful, large, white. Shoes: pink, clean, comfortable. Dress: checked, white, elegant. Pot: round, grey. Hall: large, bright, quiet.

Practice 2A

1. a beautiful tall green plant
2. a round grey stone pot
3. a fantastic large colourful banner
4. lovely small pink shoes
5. big black letters
6. a small white plastic badge
7. a long blue lanyard
8. a simple red logo

Practice 2B

1. a beautiful green plant
2. a round stone pot
3. lovely pink shoes
4. a large white banner

Practice 3A

1. The hall is spacious.
2. Her dress is elegant.
3. The banner is vibrant.
4. The conference was excellent.
5. The teacher looks cheerful.
6. The floor is spotless.
7. Education is essential.
8. The talk was fascinating.

The word "very" disappears, because the professional adjective is already strong.

Practice 3B (example answers): The spacious hall is very quiet. The teacher is wearing an elegant dress. The vibrant banner has seven circles.