

## THE ADJECTIVE

Adjectives are words used to describe or to give information about a noun: *the big house*. Adjectives take neither gender nor number. They can be formed from nouns (*beautiful, homeless, childlike, grassy*) and from verbs (*verify, realize, sadden*)

### Semantic classification of adjectives

Static/Dynamic: *tall/careful*

Adjectives indicating origin have no degree.

Adjectives can indicate an inherent or a non inherent quality:

*a wooden cross/actor*

### Collocation

The adjectives are placed before the noun. When more than 2:  
det + temperature + shape or size + age + colour + origin + material +  
N

*A hot large old white Swiss wooden house*

### Modification

Premodification only by an adverb: *incredibly beautiful*

Postmodification: prep. Ph, finite clause, to-infinitive clause, enough, too, so, rather, advs:

*too good a movie to miss/ so good a movie that we mustn't miss it.*

### Function

Subject attribute: *Cs (children are happy)*

Object attribute: *Co (he made me happy)*

Premodifier of a Noun Phrase Head