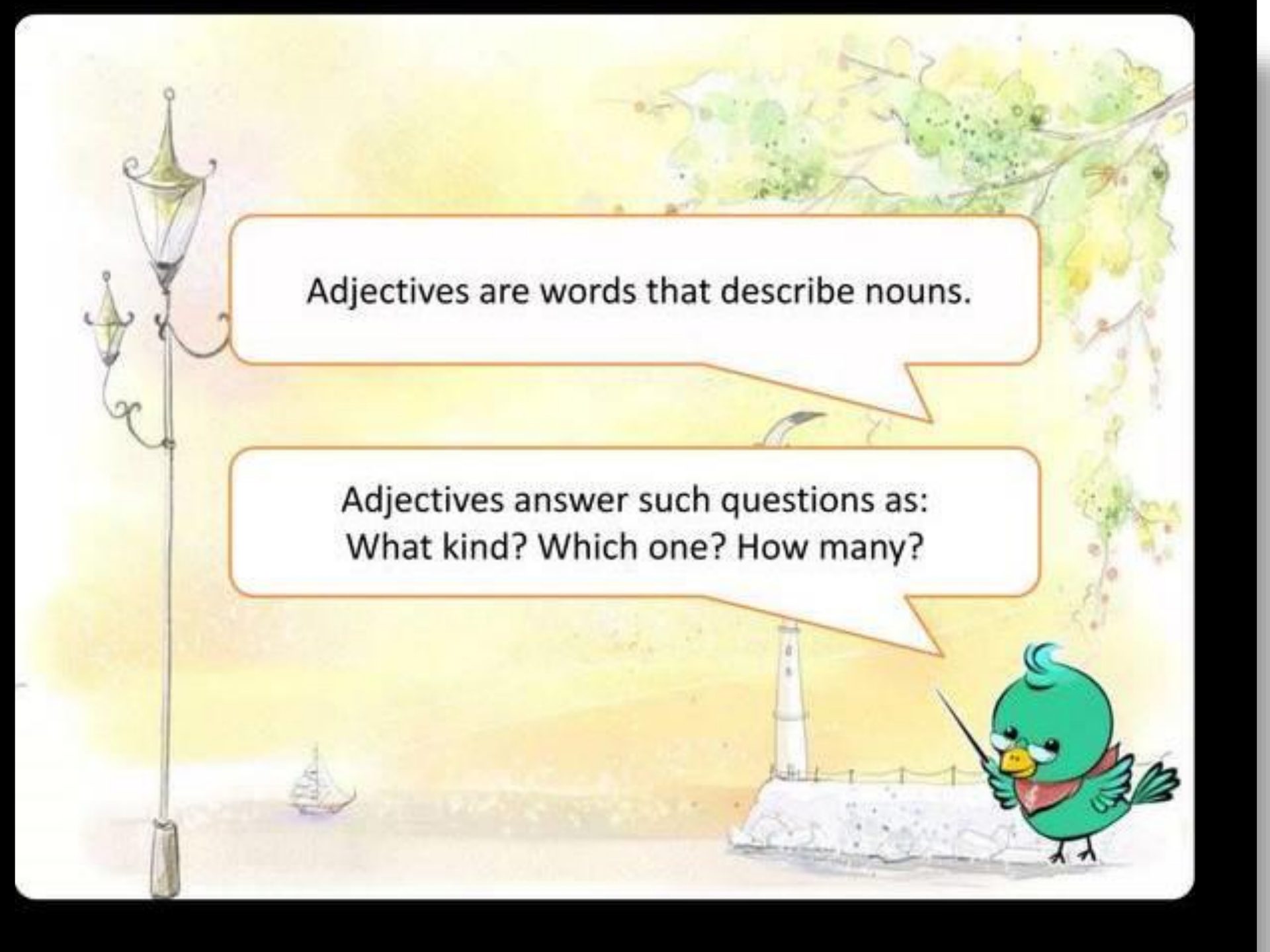


# Adjectives





Adjectives are words that describe nouns.

Adjectives answer such questions as:  
What kind? Which one? How many?

# Adjectives can be used to describe:

## Colour

e.g. blue, red,  
green, brown,  
purple, yellow,  
black.

## Opinion

e.g. good, pretty,  
right, wrong,  
funny, light, happy.

## Size

e.g. big, small,  
long, short.

## Age

e.g. Old, young

## Shape

e.g. round,  
triangle,  
rectangular,  
square, oval.

## Origin

e.g. German,  
Malaysia

## Material

e.g. glass, metal.

## Distance

e.g. long, short,  
near, far

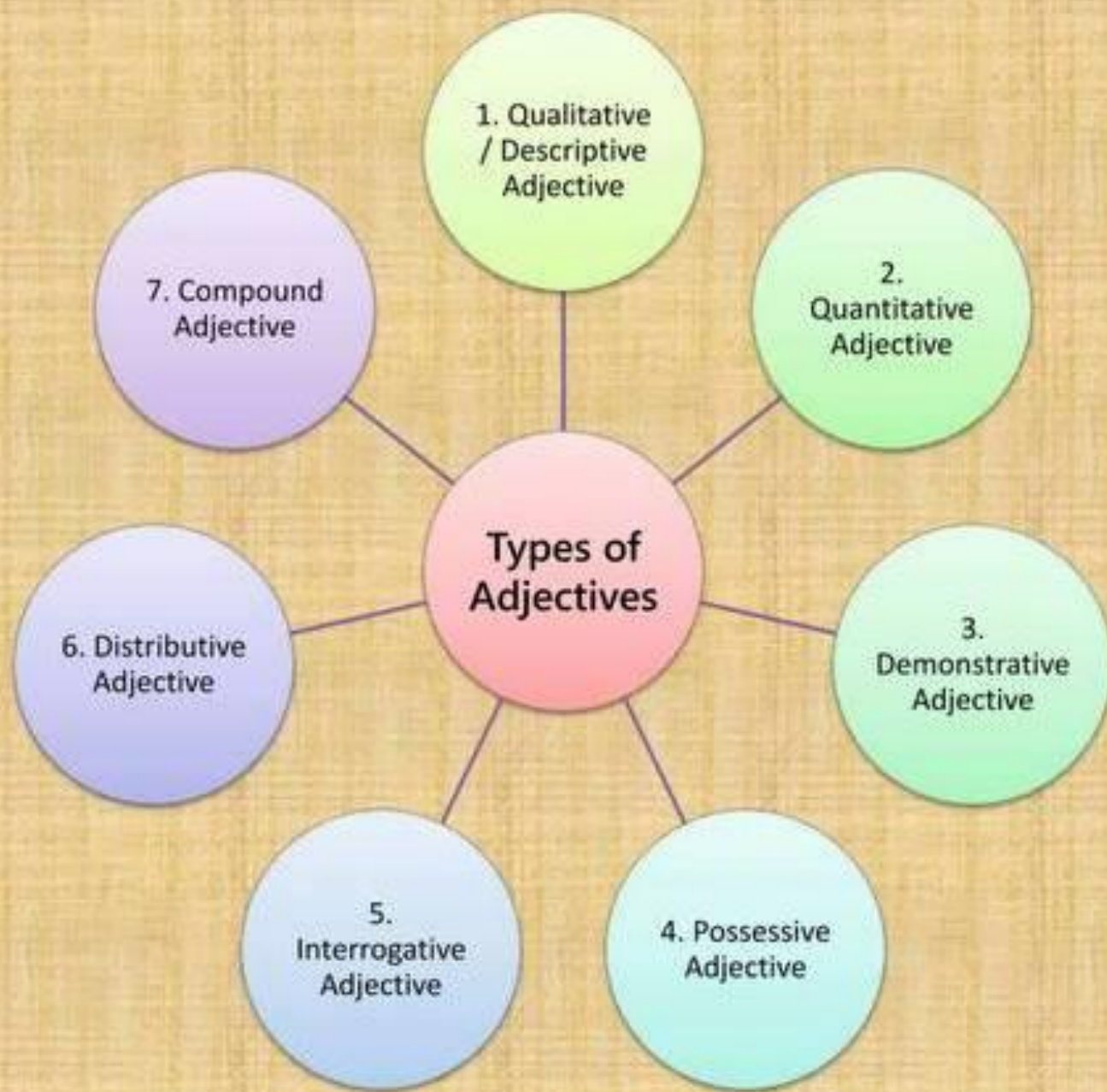
## Temperature

e.g. cold, warm,  
hot, cool

## Time

e.g. late, early.





# 1. Qualitative / Descriptive Adjectives

To describe the quality of a person or thing, for example, its size, general description (physical), age, shape, colour, material, origin and purpose.

Examples: tall, excellent, slim, young, square, plastic

1. The *tall* girl is my classmate.
2. The students achieved *excellent* results.



## 2. Quantitative Adjectives

To indicate the number or amount of things

Examples: some, much, little, enough, all, no, any, whole, several

1. She found *many* pens under the table.
2. There was *no* milk in the jug.
3. There are *thirty seven* students in this class.

### 3. Demonstrative adjectives

To point out nouns.

Examples: this, these, that, those

1. *This* is my friend, Dina.
2. *Those* books belong to her.

## 4. Interrogative Adjectives

Used with noun to ask questions.

Examples: what, whose, where, why, how and which

1. *Whose* pen is this?
2. *Which* way shall we go?



## 5. Possessive Adjectives

Used to show possession.

Examples: my, your, his, her, our, their, its.

1. This is *her* hat.
2. *Their* parents came to *my* house yesterday.


## 6. Distributive Adjectives

To show that the persons or things are counted collectively.

Normally used with singular nouns.

Refer to members of a group as individuals.

Examples: each, every, either, and neither.

- 
1. *Each* participant was asked to complete a survey.
  2. *Either* of these movies would be interesting to me.



# 7. Compound Adjectives

Made up of two or more words.

Often linked together with hyphens to link the words together to show that it is one adjective.

Examples: light-weight, duty-free, four-foot, part-time, cold-blooded, well-behaved.

1. We have to be *open-minded* about things.
2. The lady is wearing a pair of *high-heeled* shoes.



# Comparison of adjectives

- There are three forms of comparison:
  - **positive**
  - **comparative**
  - **superlative**



# A - Comparison with -er/-est

We use -er/-est with the following adjectives:

| positive | comparative      | superlative       |
|----------|------------------|-------------------|
| clean    | clean <b>er</b>  | clean <b>est</b>  |
| dirty    | dirt <b>ier</b>  | dirt <b>iest</b>  |
| clever   | clever <b>er</b> | clever <b>est</b> |
| simple   | simpl <b>er</b>  | simpl <b>est</b>  |
| Narrow   | narrow <b>er</b> | narrow <b>est</b> |



## ***B - Comparison with more - most***

| positive  | comparative           | superlative                 |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| difficult | <b>more</b> difficult | (the) <b>most</b> difficult |
| beautiful | <b>more</b> beautiful | (the) <b>most</b> beautiful |



# ***C - Irregular adjectives***

| <b>positive</b> | <b>comparative</b> | <b>superlative</b> | <b>comment</b>    |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| good            | better             | best               |                   |
| bad             | worse              | worst              |                   |
| much            | more               | most               | uncountable nouns |
| many            | more               | most               | countable nouns   |
| little          | less               | least              |                   |
| little          | smaller            | smallest           |                   |

# ***D - Special adjectives***

Some adjectives have **two** possible **forms** of comparison (-er/-est and more/most).

| positive | comparative            | superlative             |
|----------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| clever   | cleverer / more clever | cleverest / most clever |
| common   | commoner / more common | commonest / most common |
| likely   | likelier / more likely | likeliest / most likely |
| polite   | politer / more polite  | politest / most polite  |
| simple   | simpler / more simple  | simplest / most simple  |

# Questions

Identify the adjectives.

1. Try using this paintbrush in art class.
2. Many people came to visit the fair.
3. I went into the duty-free shop but I did not buy anything.
4. He doesn't seem intelligent, but he is.



# Answer

1. this
2. Many
3. duty-free
4. intelligent