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Key Skills



Effective Adjectives

What Are Adjectives?

Adjectives describe a noun. They are used to add description and mood to a piece of writing.

E.G: *I fell into the river*

becomes

I fell into the raging river.



- The adjective '**raging**' adds **description** to the sentence. It helps the reader get a clear picture of what is being described. The reader can now imagine the scene vividly: a rapidly flowing river.
- The adjective also adds **tension** to the sentence. The word '**raging**' makes the river sound fast flowing and dangerous. This makes the sentence more exciting for the reader.



Spot the Adjective

Underline, circle or highlight the adjectives in the following sentences:

- 1. The vicious dog ran straight for me.*
- 2. The angry sea crashed against the black rocks.*
- 3. The fragile, old lady peered through the smashed window.*
- 4. My new bike landed in the muddy pond.*
- 5. A lonely star shone in the purple sky.*

Check Your Understanding

How did you do? Give yourself one mark for each correctly identified adjective then add up your score out of ten.

1. The vicious dog ran straight for me.
2. The angry sea crashed against the black rocks.
3. The fragile, old lady peered through the smashed window.
4. My new bike landed in the muddy pond.
5. A lonely star shone in the purple sky.

Using Adjectives

On the next slide you will be asked to place adjectives into a range of sentences.

- Before you begin, make sure you:



- Use a word which makes sense in the sentence
- Use better vocabulary. Avoid boring adjectives such as 'big', 'interesting', or 'scary'.
- Use an adjective that creates an image and a particular mood for the reader.

Using Adjectives

Place adjectives into the following sentences:

1. *The _____ wind blasted the _____ castle walls.*
2. *The _____ child threw its _____ toy onto the floor.*
3. *A _____ woman crept out of the back door of the _____ house.*
4. *I sat there _____ in the _____ examination hall.*
5. *The _____ striker smashed the ball past the _____ goal keeper.*

Constructive Criticism



Speaking and Listening

Speaking: Read your sentences out to a partner or the rest of the class. Explain why you have chosen particular adjectives, say how they improve the sentence.

Listening: Listen to the sentences being read out. Has the reader improved the sentences by adding adjectives? If you think they have say why. How could they improve it further?

For whole class discussion choose another reader, for paired work swap roles.