

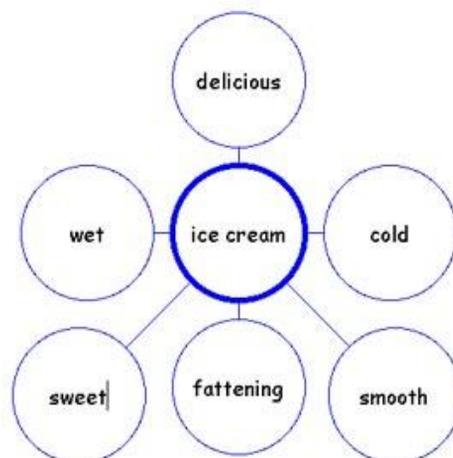
Beginner Adjectives

Adjectives are generally invariable in English and do not agree with nouns in number and gender.

a blue car

the great outdoors

a group of young women



However, a few adjectives have a connotation which is slightly masculine or feminine. Thus, one says that a woman is beautiful while a man would be called handsome.

Adjectives indicating religion or nationality (or a region, state or province) generally begin with a capital letter, whether they refer to people or objects:

She is an American student.

They go to a Catholic school.

They enjoy Breton music.

Usage

The adjective will be placed, with very few exceptions, in front of the noun it modifies. When two adjectives precede a noun, they can be connected by a comma (,) or by the conjunction "and." In a series of three or more adjectives, one usually uses "and" before the last adjective in the list.

Examples: *I like short novels.*

That fellow will be a competent worker.

She writes long and flowery letters.

He works long, hard hours.

She had a mean, old and overbearing step-mother.

An adjective may follow the noun when it is in a predicate (after the verb) or in a relative clause. (In relative clauses the relative pronoun may be implicit.)

Examples: *He was a man (who was) always happy to help others.*

She is a woman (who is) true to herself.

They were entirely satisfied.