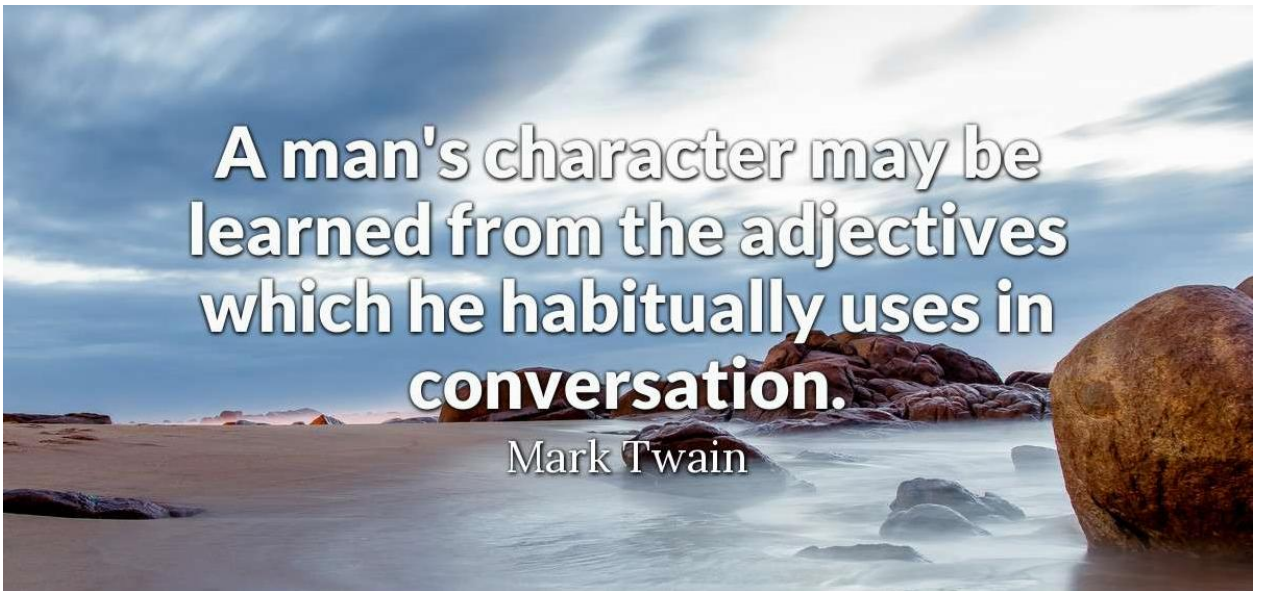




ORDER OF ADJECTIVES



**A man's character may be
learned from the adjectives
which he habitually uses in
conversation.**

Mark Twain

ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

- ◆ When there are two or more adjectives in a sentence, they usually go in the following order:

Opinion Adjectives

It's a fantastic

Fact Adjectives

size	age	shape	colour	origin	material	used for/be about	noun
<i>small</i>	<i>new</i>	<i>round</i>	<i>red</i>	<i>Swiss</i>	<i>plastic</i>	<i>alarm</i>	<i>clock</i>

- ◆ **Ordinal numbers** (first, second, third, etc.) go before **cardinal numbers** (one, two, three, etc.)
e.g. the **first two** weeks (NOT: ~~the two first weeks~~)
- ◆ The adjectives **afraid, alike, alive, alone, ashamed, asleep, awake, content, glad, ill, pleased, etc.** are not followed by nouns.
e.g. The man was **alive**. Karen is **ill** today.
- ◆ The adjectives **chief, elder, eldest, former, indoor, inner, main, only, outdoor, outer, principal, upper** are always followed by nouns.
e.g. This is my **elder son**.
- ◆ We do not usually use a long list of adjectives before a single noun. A noun is usually described by one, two or three adjectives at the most.
e.g. a **beautiful blue evening dress**
- ◆ Certain adjectives can be used with 'the' as nouns to refer to groups of people in general. These are: **elderly, middle-aged, old, young, blind, deaf, disabled, living, sick, homeless, hungry, poor, rich, strong, unemployed, weak, etc.**
e.g. **The young** have a lot of energy. (We refer to young people in general.) **but:** The **young people** of our town are organising a charity concert. (We refer to a specific group of young people).
When we talk about one person we say **A/The young man/woman, A/The blind man/woman, etc.**
e.g. **The young woman** who lives next door is a medical student.

I. Put in order.

1. lovely | A | red | cotton | dress. |
2. An | amazing | American | big | car. | new | Ford |
3. knife. | A | long | butcher's | steel |
4. An | young | English | slim | starlet. | attractive |
5. dog. | spotty | cute | brown | little | A |
6. clever | A | African | man. | middle-aged |
7. Siamese | grey | nice | cat. | A |
8. expensive | table. | wooden | Indian | old | An |
9. An | lady. | old | elegant | English |
10. fashionable | green | A | woolen | pullover. |
11. striped | scarf. | silk | square | chic | A |

II. Choose the correct answer.

- 1) They were the _____ months of the year.
a) last sunny three
b) last three sunny
c) three last sunny

2) I broke her _____ glasses.

- a) two last crystal
- b) last two crystal
- c) crystal last two

3) What is Mike going to do in the _____ ?

- a) four next days
- b) four days next
- c) next four days

4) What a _____ sculpture!

- a) beautiful ivory Japanese
- b) Japanese beautiful ivory
- c) beautiful Japanese ivory

5) The big _____ chairs were my grandfather's.

- a) light red leather
- b) red light leather
- c) leather light red

6) John has bought a _____ car

- a) nice sporting red
- b) nice red sporting
- c) red nice sporting

7) These people live in a _____ house.

- a) big old brick
- b) old big brick
- c) brick old big

8) I won't be here for the _____ of August.

- a) two weeks first
- b) first two weeks
- c) two first weeks

III. Put the sentences in order.

1. town. | in | I | a | old, | live | Irish | small, |
2. house | see | building | is | over | pink | you'll | that | there. | small | Her |
3. has | a | puppy. | brown | got | cute | She |
4. is | wearing | pair | large | a | plastic | shoes. | Betty | of |
5. attractive | old | him, | saw | he | was | slim | Italian. | I | an |
6. was | suit. | wearing | he | brother | black | fashionable | My | leather | a | came |
in, |
7. delicious | loved | English | cakes | those | you | I | made. |
8. hat | in | funny | found | at | Look | cotton | blue | the | I | market! | the |
9. such | a | fell | we | with | it. | was | that | idea | in | It | lovely |
10. of | only | Don't | is | so | week! | awful | the | one | day | be | rainy | nasty, | and |
the | this |

IV. Describe the pictures using the correct order of adjectives.



SILVER/EXPENSIVE/SMALL

It's a _____



EUROPEAN/BROWN/COMFORTABLE

It's a _____



AMERICAN/WHITE AND BLUE/SMALL

It's a _____



SILVER/BIG/CONVENIENT

It's a _____

V. Put the sentences in order.

- 1 lace / blue / beautiful / handkerchief
...*a beautiful blue lace handkerchief*...
- 2 a(n) stone / ancient / small / cottage
.....
- 3 a(n) English / huge / wooden / wardrobe
.....
- 4 a(n) Chinese / amazing / old / story
.....
- 5 a(n) American / new / exciting / film
.....
- 6 a pair of / wire / old / reading / glasses
.....
- 7 a(n) wooden / lovely / old-fashioned / table
.....
- 8 a(n) white / linen / Irish / tablecloth
.....
- 9 a chocolate / large / delicious / cake
.....
- 10 a(n) orange / ugly / velvet / sofa
.....