

THE ROLE OF ADJECTIVES IN THE SECOND LANGUAGE

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Annotation: This research aims to analyze the types of adjectives and their functions, grammatical, syntactical and morphological categories and characteristics.

Key words: adjectives, comparative, predicate, compound, possessive, demonstrative, proper, practical, limiting, descriptive, interrogative, attributive, relative, morphological structures.

The acquisition of adjectives in a second language is a fundamental aspect of language learning. Adjectives are central to expressing and modifying nouns, providing learners with the ability to describe and classify objects, people, and experiences. This article aims to highlight the multifaceted role of adjectives in second language acquisition and its implications for teaching and learning English as a second language.

Acquisition Patterns: The acquisition of adjectives in SLA has been widely studied by researchers. Studies have indicated that learners typically acquire adjectives later in their language development compared to simpler linguistic elements, such as nouns and verbs. This delay can be attributed to the complex syntactic and morphological features of adjectives, including comparative and superlative forms, as well as agreement with nouns in terms of gender, number, and case.

Semantic Challenges

One of the primary challenges for second language learners is acquiring accurate adjective-noun collocations to convey precise meaning. Adjectives possess a wide array of semantic features, including gradability, polarity, and specificity, which need to be understood and applied appropriately. Learners often struggle with selecting the correct adjective form based on context and understanding nuances of meaning. Therefore, explicit instruction and practice on adjective usage and collocations are crucial for learners' accuracy and fluency.

Syntactic Challenges

Second language learners encounter several syntactic challenges associated with the use of adjectives. These challenges include learning adjective order, agreement with nouns, and the syntactic positions of adjectives within a sentence. For instance, English follows a fixed order of adjectives before a noun (opinion, size, age, shape, color, origin, material, purpose), which may differ from the order in learners' native languages. Understanding and internalizing such linguistic patterns can significantly enhance learners' overall grammatical proficiency.

Successful adjective instruction in SLA requires a comprehensive and learner-centered approach. Teachers should provide explicit explanations about adjective forms, functions, and collocations. Contextualized and interactive tasks, such as role-plays, discussions, and creative writing activities, can help learners practice and reinforce

their adjective usage. Incorporating authentic materials and multimedia resources can also expose learners to real-life language use and provide opportunities for meaningful adjective practice.

Implications for Classroom Practice

To optimize adjective instruction in the classroom, educators can implement the following strategies:

- a) Sequence adjective instruction systematically, considering learners' proficiency levels and linguistic backgrounds.
- b) Incorporate multiple modalities, such as visual aids, audio recordings, and kinesthetic activities, to cater to diverse learning styles.
- c) Promote meaningful interaction by integrating adjective-focused tasks into pair work or group activities.
- d) Provide constructive feedback and error correction during speaking and writing exercises to improve learners' accuracy.
- e) Encourage learner autonomy by assigning tasks that require learners to explore and use adjectives independently.

Adjectives play a crucial role in second language acquisition, facilitating learners' expression, comprehension, and communicative competence. Understanding the challenges associated with adjective acquisition and employing effective teaching methodologies can enhance learners' mastery of adjectives, ultimately leading to improved language proficiency. By acknowledging the essential role of adjectives and implementing learner-focused pedagogical practices, educators can support and empower second language learners in their journey to becoming proficient English speakers.

Adjectives give us more information about something. And features and qualities of people, animals and items. They are one of the four basic word classes, as well as nouns, adverbs and pronouns.

I have a big garden. Look at the spectacular mountain.

Mainly, we can see the adjectives in descriptive essays, letters and any kind of compositions. Without adjectives, you wouldn't be able to explain your ideas freely and clearly. And I'm going to examine in brief 13 different types of them:

1. Comparative adjectives
2. Superlative adjectives
3. Predicate adjectives
4. Compound adjectives
5. Possessive adjectives
6. Demonstrative adjectives
7. Proper adjectives
8. Participial adjectives
9. Limiting adjectives
10. Descriptive adjectives
11. Interrogative adjectives
12. Attributive adjectives
13. Distributive adjectives

Compound adjectives are used to compare to different things or people. In this position we should use comparative degree of adjectives: larger, smaller, more beautiful.

Our dormitory is cheaper than others.

Superlative adjectives are used to compare more than two people or objects by indicating which one is the highest ranking and prime. Some examples to them: the smartest, the biggest, the most attractive.

My hometown is the most stunning city in our country.

Predicate adjectives are adjectives which uses in the predicate. This type of adjectives follow linking verbs in sentences and clauses: He became upset when he didn't won the tournament.

Compound adjectives are adjectives which are results of multiple words that are usually used by hyphens: almond-eyes, kind-hearted, old-fashioned, long-lasting.

Their friendship sounds a long-lasting one.

Possessive adjectives are used to express right of possession and proprietorship.

Demonstrative adjectives are adjectives which express relative situations in time.

Proper adjectives formed from proper nouns. It is used to say something that is related to the place or people:

Do you go to the Chinese restaurant?

Participle adjectives are depend on participles like amazing, dripping, mass-produced, fascinating.

Clothes are mass-produced product.

Limiting adjectives restrict a noun or pronoun rather than any kind of descriptive adjectives.

I bought some milk at the store for cooking.

Descriptive adjectives describe the characteristics or qualities of noun or pronoun: heavy, responsible, old, awful.

Interrogative adjectives are used to ask question.

Attributive adjectives are next to the noun or pronoun and modify them. Sometimes they appear before or after them.

Distributive adjectives are used to express members of a group.

According to their meaning and grammatical characteristics, they are divided into two classes:

1. Qualitative ; 2. Relative.

Qualitative adjective describe the quality of the subject, people or items: large, strong, important, perfect, necessary, blue, soft.

Relative adjectives describe the quality of a substance, material(golden, wooden),to place(Canadian, Italian),to time(weekly, daily)

In our English, Qualitative adjectives have degrees(big, bigger,the biggest).But some kind of qualitative adjectives have no degrees(darkish, unsuitable, principal)

Relative adjectives have no any degree as well they aren't used with the suffix -ly. But their meaning increase, we can use. **For example**, She speaks her lines rather woodenly.

Order of the Adjectives

If we use them in our Uzbek language, we don't place them in order. But in English grammar there is a special order. We have opinion and fact adjectives and opinion adjectives usually go before fact.

Opinion adj+Fact adj+Noun

Fact adjectives:1.How size? 2.How old? 3.What color? 4.Where from? 5.What is it made of?

6.Purpose +Noun.

When we use them in order, not all need to participate, But the order is strictly maintained.

A large round wooden table

An old Russian song

Short blond hair

Morphological structure –There are morphological characteristics in adjectives. They are divided into three types such as simple, derivative and compound.

1.**Simple adjectives** haven't any suffixes and prefixes: tall, bad, little, fat, black, convenient.

2.**Derivative adjectives** have suffixes, prefixes, derivative elements: comfortable, foolish, unhappy, essential.

The most productive and well-known suffixes are:-**less**: hopeless, useless -**like**: ladylike, lifelike; -**ish**: foolish, greenish, boyish; -**ed**: surprised, disappointed

Unproductive adjective suffixes are: -ful: careful, wonderful, beautiful;

-**ent**: defendant, intelligent; -**ible**: flexible, invisible **en**:broken, golden, wooden; -**ous**: famous, serious, -**some**: handsome, awesome.

Productive adjective prefixes are: -un: unpleasant, unusual; -**pre**: precarious, preachy; -**ir**: irregular, irresponsible; -im: impatient, impossible; -**in**: incorrect.

3) Compound adjectives make from two or more stems:

1.num+noun+suffixes:two-wheeled

2.noun+adj:snow-white

3.noun+participle:snow-capped

4.adj+adj:deaf-mute

5.noun+noun+suffix:almond-eyed

6.adj+noun+suffix:kind-hearted

7.adv+noun+suffix:over-crowded

In addition to these forms, compound adjectives can be made from various word group. And among them, the form Noun+Adj and Noun+Participle are the most common. If we use compound adjectives a lot in our speech and writing it shows our skills. The more we use adjectives in our language appropriately and in accordance with the content. The more effective and meaningful our speech and writing will be. Without them, We cannot clearly express

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