

Limiting Adjectives

Introduction

1) An adjective is a word or set of words that modifies (i.e. describes) a noun (e.g. girl, boy etc.) or pronoun (e.g. we, it etc.). Adjectives may come before or after the word they modify.

*This is a **cute** cat. This cat is **cute**.*

2) There are many kinds of adjectives. Among them there is a category of limiting adjectives. They help to define or 'limit' a noun or pronoun by telling which one, what kind, or how many.

*This sandwich is **delicious**.*

There are the following categories of limiting adjectives:

a) articles are the most commonly used adjectives. *A, an, the* indicate whether the noun is used indefinitely or definitely.

*There is **a** bed, **a** mirror, **a** wardrobe, and **an** easel in **the** room.*

b) demonstrative adjectives are adjectives that are used to modify a noun so that we know which specific person, place, or thing is mentioned. The most common demonstrative adjectives are *this, that, these, those*.

***This** is July, and **that** girl over there is Judy.*

c) numerals can function as limiting adjectives limiting the noun to a specific number or amount.

***One** chocolate bar, **two** cups of coffee, and **ten** hours of hard work were put into **this**.*

d) indefinite adjectives are used to describe a noun in a non-specific sense. The most common indefinite adjectives are *any, each, few, many, much, most, several, some*. They are often used to describe a noun showing an element of uncertainty.

*There were **several** people in the room.*

In the category of limiting adjectives there are also pronominal and possessive adjectives that will be covered in the following lessons.

Short Story Dialogue

– Mom, do we have **any** cookies left?

– No, we don't. There is **a single** piece of pie in **the** fridge.

– Nah, I don't want **that**. I wanted to make **a** cheesecake so I needed **some** cookies to make **the** dough.

– I'm sorry, dear, but you have to go to **the** shop then if you want to make **this** cheesecake today.

– Hmm, **this** can wait. I'll finish **the** pie then.

Independent Practice - Limiting Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *a, an, the*.

- a. Do you live in house? – No, I live in apartment.
- b. weather was amazing last month.
- c. Ann didn't want to come in as there was dog in room.
- d. Would you like apple?

2) Fill in the gaps with *this, these*.

- a. Whose shoes are
- b. is a great coat.
- c. are our beloved sons.

3) Fill in the gaps with *some, any*.

- a. I got nice presents for you!
- b. She is too bossy so she doesn't have friends.
- c. There isn't juice left.

V. Independent Practice: Answers - Limiting Adjectives

1) Fill in the gaps with *a, an, the*.

- a. Do you live in **a** house? – No, I live in **an** apartment.
- b. **The** weather was amazing last month.
- c. Ann didn't want to come in as there was **a** dog in **the** room.
- d. Would you like **an** apple?

2) Fill in the gaps with *this, these*.

- a. Whose shoes are **these**?
- b. **This** is a great coat.
- c. **These** are our beloved sons.

3) Fill in the gaps with *some, any*.

- a. I got **some** nice presents for you!
- b. She is too bossy so she doesn't have **any** friends.
- c. There isn't **any** juice left.