



Grammar II – Syllabus

Course Description: This course will continue the student's knowledge of the parts of speech by teaching adjectives and adverbs. With their prior knowledge of nouns, pronouns, and verbs, students will also learn how to build their sentences with the use of sentence complements: predicate nominatives, predicate adjectives, direct objects, and indirect objects.

Course Outline:

Week One: Adjectives I

- A. Articles
- B. Demonstrative & Possessive Adjectives

Week Two: Adjectives II

- A. Descriptive Adjectives
- B. Word Order for Adjectives

Week Three: Adjectives III

- A. Comparatives & Superlatives
- B. Irregular Adjectives
- C. Adjective Phrases

Week Four: Adverbs I—Adverbs of Manner, Time, Place, & Frequency

Week Five: Adverbs II—Adverbs of Certainty & Degree & Interrogative Adverbs

Week Six: Predicate Nominatives & Predicate Adjectives

Week Seven: Direct Objects & Indirect Objects

Week Eight: Final Review



Grammar II – Grading Outline

All grammar classes will be graded based on the number of answers in each assignment. Assignments will not be graded on creativity or writing skills, as most of the assignments are technical. Assignments will be graded similar to a test or quiz. For example, if a student must underline ten nouns in an assignment and misses two, the student would receive an 80% on that assignment.

As there are numerous assignments in each lesson, the total number of required answers per lesson will be added up. Any incorrect answers will be subtracted from the score, and the grade will be given accordingly. For example, if there are 50 answers in a lesson, and a student misses 4, the grade is as follows:

$$50 - 4 = 46 \text{ points}$$

$$46/50 = 92\%$$

Course Components	Percentage of Final Grade
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Weekly Assignments	70%
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Final Test	30%
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EXAMPLE

assignment grades: 70, 80, 90, 75, 87, 92, 94, 86 = 84%

average test grade: 94 %

$$.84 \times 70 = 58.8$$

$$.94 \times 30 = 28.2$$

FINAL GRADE: 87%



Grammar II

Lesson One: Adjectives I

SAMPLE LESSON

ARTICLES –

In Lesson 1 of *Grammar I*, you learned that a noun is a person, place, thing, or idea – such as the words *dog, house, happiness, mother, love, and car*.

What if we want to give more information about the noun? What if we want to show people exactly which noun we are talking about? Or, what if we need to tell someone the amount of the noun? What can we do then? **We use adjectives.**

An adjective is a word that describes a noun. It tells us more about the noun.

The first type of adjective we are going to talk about are called **articles**. **In English, there are three articles. They are *a, an, and the*.** Each one is used in a specific way.

A and an are called indefinite articles and they are used to speak about a noun that is not specific. The noun is always singular. The only difference between *a* and *an* is this:

We use *a* in front of words that start with a consonant sound.

We use *an* in front of words that start with a vowel sound.

Examples:

a rug

a chair

a union

a universe

an idea

an apple

an honor

an hour

Notice that the words *union* (yoo - nyun) and *universe* (yoo - nih - vers) start with the consonant sound of the letter Y. Because of that, they use the article *a*.

Notice that the words *honor* (on - or) and *hour* (ow - er) start with the vowel sound of the letter O. Because of that, they use the article *an*.

If we want to speak about a non-specific plural noun, we use the adjective *some*.

Examples:

some rugs	some chairs	some unions	some universes
some ideas	some apples	some honors	some hours

On the other hand, ***the* is called a *definite article* and it is used when you are speaking about a specific noun.** This noun can be singular or plural.

Examples:

the house	the cars	the building	the rivers
the sleds	the country	the keyboards	the movie

When we use *the*, we are referring to a specific house, specific cars, a specific building, etc.

You do need to know that **there are many times in English that we do not use *a*, *an*, or *the* in front of nouns.** We will not cover all of the rules and the exceptions to those rules, but let us look at the most common ones.

Do not use an article in front of:

1. Names of individual lakes, mountains, islands, stadiums, malls, parks, or most canyons:

Lake Ontario	Mt. Everest	Easter Island
Greece Town Mall	Hamlin Park	Horseshoe Canyon

2. Names of most diseases:

asthma	chickenpox	leprosy	strep throat
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3. Name of streets, boulevards, lanes, roads or avenues:

Main Street	Martin Boulevard	Drury Lane	Lamplight Road	College Avenue
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4. The words *north, south, east, or west* if they are directions:

He drives north. You went east.

5. Names of most universities or colleges:

Boston College Yale University

6. Names of continents, countries, cities or states:

North America France Texas

7. Names of languages:

Spanish Italian Russian

8. Names of sports:

gymnastics basketball soccer

9. Names of school subjects:

arithmetic history science

Assignment 1A: Decide whether to use *a, an,* or *some* in front of the following nouns.

1. _____ attics

6. _____ ear

2. _____ pillow

7. _____ television

3. _____ igloo

8. _____ oval

4. _____ games

9. _____ children

5. _____ closet

10. _____ accident

Assignment 1B: Decide whether or not to use the article *the* in each sentence. If not, leave the space blank.

1. _____ mailman delivered _____ mail.
2. We played _____ soccer.
3. Tamara painted _____ portraits.
4. They speak _____ French.
5. _____ computer is broken.
6. He put _____ books on _____ bookshelf.
7. I live on _____ College Avenue.
8. My sister had _____ strep throat.
9. We visited _____ Lake Erie.
10. _____ chair is comfortable.

DEMONSTRATIVE ADJECTIVES –

Next, we will talk about **demonstrative adjectives**. That word *demonstrative* comes from the verb *to demonstrate* which just means "to show; to indicate; to point out."

We use demonstrative adjectives to tell people exactly which noun we are talking about.

There are four demonstrative adjectives in English: ***this, that, these, and those***. ***This and that are singular while these and those are plural.***

This and these are used for things close to you while that and those are used for things that are far from you.

Imagine you are standing outside your house in your driveway. Both your house and your driveway are close to you. Because they are close to you, you can say *this house* and *this driveway* because there is only one house and only one driveway.

Now, imagine that you are standing in between your driveway and your neighbor's driveway. You are now close to both your driveway and his driveway and you are also close to both houses. Now there are two houses and two driveways. You can say *these houses* and *these driveways* because you see more than one and you are close to them.

Now, imagine you are in your driveway again and that your friend lives in another house on your street. You can see the corner of your friend's house from where you are standing, but you would have to walk for two or three minutes to get there. If you wanted to talk about your friend's house and driveway, you would need to say *that house* and *that driveway* because each noun is singular and the house and driveway are not close to you.

If your friend happened to be really rich and he had two houses and two driveways, you would say, *those houses* and *those driveways* because they are not close to you and the nouns are plural.

Assignment 1C: Fill in the blank with the correct demonstrative adjective based on the location and number of the noun.

1. _____ houses (close to you)
2. _____ farm (far away from you)
3. _____ museum (close to you)
4. _____ stores (far away from you)
5. _____ game (close to you)
6. _____ chicken (far away from you)
7. _____ cars (close to you)
8. _____ couches (far away from you)
9. _____ table (close to you)
10. _____ city (far away from you)

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES –

We can tell people to whom or to what a noun belongs by using adjectives. These kinds of adjectives are called possessive adjectives. Take a look at these adjectives, both in their singular and plural forms, on the next page.

Singular

my
your
his
her
its

Plural

our
your
their
their
their

Remember, these adjectives are used to show possession. Take a minute and look at some examples using each of these adjectives.

Singular

my car
your ice cream cone
his book
her swimming pool
its tires

Plural

our car
your ice cream cones
their books
their swimming pools
their tires

One final thing to note is that the possessive form of *it* does not have an apostrophe. We write it like this: *its*. If there were an apostrophe (it's), we would be using the contraction for *it is*.

Assignment 1D: Write the correct possessive adjective for each object.

- _____ school books (belonging to you)
- _____ clothes (belonging to the person you are speaking to)
- _____ toys (belonging to a boy)
- _____ shoes (belonging to a girl)
- _____ moss (belonging to a rock)
- _____ house (belonging to you and someone else)
- _____ cars (belonging to the people you are speaking to)
- _____ footballs (belonging to a group of boys)
- _____ dolls (belonging to a group of girls)
- _____ steering wheels (belonging to a group of cars)

NOTE: There is often confusion between the **possessive pronoun** and the **possessive adjective**. It is important to know the difference. Remember, a pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun. Therefore, a possessive pronoun stands by itself; it does not come before a noun. Possessive pronouns are the following words: *mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours, theirs*.

On the other hand, a possessive adjective acts just like any other adjective. It comes before a noun. Possessive adjectives are the following words: *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*.

As you can see, both groups share the words *his* and *its*. So, how can you tell? If the word comes before a noun, it is a possessive adjective. If the word stands by itself, it is a possessive pronoun.

Assignment 1E: Write whether each underlined word is a possessive pronoun or a possessive adjective.

1. He borrowed my bike.
2. That dress is hers.
3. Your sentences are well-written.
4. Where did you find her shoes?
5. Are those tickets theirs?
6. This is our house.
7. This umbrella isn't yours.
8. The idea was mine.
9. Their plane was delayed.
10. The bear ate its food.
11. These items are ours.
12. His speech was loud and clear.