A lovely lively lexical lesson

The aim of this lesson is to give you a much wider range of adjectives to enrich your English vocabulary, thus enabling you to describe any animal, vegetable or mineral in greater detail. You will consequently feel more inspired to relate your personal experiences as well as to tell stories and jokes in English, not to mention making you fascinating to listen to!

Shall we begin this wondrous and inspirational lesson bursting with amusing activities and a plethora of astounding adjectives? Let's!

Activity 1 – Let's start with some brainstorming to warm you up!
What's the first adjective that comes to mind with each of the following words?

Holiday	*Beach*	*Sun*	*Pineapple*
Red	*Sky*	*Pasta*	*Pen*
Shop	*Island*	*Artist*	*English*
Paper	*Breakfast*	*Door*	*Computer*
Acrobat	*Table*	*Clock*	*Penguin*

Activity 2 – Be descriptive
Using your list to help you, find as many adjectives as you can to describe each of the following:

1. Your mum/dad, partner, friend
2. The view from your office window
3. The smell of fresh coffee or freshly-made bread
4. The smell of your kitchen bin today
5. A diamond
6. A pair of new leather shoes
7. A glass of the finest Champagne
8. A glass of really cheap wine
9. A return trip to Paris in one day
10. A long and luxurious weekend in your favourite city
11. Chocolate milkshake
12. An iPad
13. Fish and chips
14. An extra gooey over chocolatey white chocolate cake
15. The feeling you have at the end of your working day on a Friday
16. A cashmere scarf
17. Mont Blanc
18. A night in with your favourite food and your favourite film
19. The smell of the air on a country farm
20. An old tree (trunk)

Activity 3 – 20 Questions
You will take it in turns to think of an object. You will try to guess what it is but you can only ask closed (yes or no) questions incorporating different adjectives.

Activity 4 – Animal adjectives game (your teacher will explain!)

Activity 5 – Song
Listen to the song and write down all of the adjectives you hear!

Activity 6 – Adjective charades
Take an adjective out of the hat and mime it to your team.
(But first, mime the category following Jack's tips!)

Activity 7 – Class guessing game
In pairs (with the help of your list of adjectives), pick one of your classmates and use your imagination to describe the following:

- The state of his or her desk / office / workspace
- His or her singing voice
- What he or she will be like and look like in 25 years' time

JACK'S CATEGORY TIPS
Personality - Point to your chest.
Feelings - Place your hand on your heart.
Shape - Draw a circle with your finger.
Size - Put your hands out in front of you vertically, shoulder width apart.
Smell - Pinch your nose with your fingers
Sound - Put your fingers behind your ear
Touch - Stroke your hand.



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Activity 8 – Descriptive writing
Let's read an example of a very descriptive piece of writing. As a group you will take it in turns to read the passage, concentrating on your stress and intonation. Underline all of the adjectives you come across.

'The Diamond as Big as The Ritz', F Scott Fitzgerald
"The chinchilla clouds had drifted past now and outside the Montana night was bright as day. The tapestry brick of the road was smooth to the tread of the great tires as they rounded a still, moonlit lake; they passed into darkness for a moment, a pine grove, pungent and cool, then they came out into a broad avenue of lawn and John's exclamation of pleasure was simultaneous with Percy's taciturn "We're home."

Full in the light of the stars, an exquisite chateau rose from the borders of the lake, climbed in marble radiance half the height of an adjoining mountain, then melted in grace, in perfect symmetry, in translucent feminine languor, into the massed darkness of a forest of pine. The many towers, the slender tracery of the sloping parapets, the chiselled wonder of a thousand yellow windows with their oblongs and hectagons and triangles of golden light, the shattered softness of the intersecting planes of star-shine and blue shade, all trembled on John's spirit like a chord of music. On one of the towers, the tallest, the blackest at its base, an arrangement of exterior lights at the top made a sort of floating fairyland--and as John gazed up in warm enchantment the faint acciaccare sound of violins drifted down in a rococo harmony that was like nothing he had ever heard before. Then in a moment the car stopped before wide, high marble steps around which the night air was fragrant with a host of flowers. At the top of the steps two great doors swung silently open and amber light flooded out upon the darkness, silhouetting the figure of an exquisite lady with black, high-piled hair, who held out her arms toward them.

"Mother," Percy was saying, "this is my friend, John Unger, from Hades."

Activity 9 – Your very own creative and descriptive writings
Now using at least ten of the new adjectives that you learnt today, write a short and preferably comical story. Naturally it has to be as descriptive as possible.