EASY ACCESS ENGLISH

In the Mind's Eye

When you have to rely on descriptions in English to paint a mental picture of something for someone, on the telephone for example, you will find you need to use a lot of adjectives ! The aim of this lesson is to help you to learn more adjectives in English and practice using them.

Activity One - Let's start with some brainstorming to warm you up !

If I say…. What's the first thing that comes to mind ?

Christmas	***Red***	***Star***
Green	***Giant***	***Pavement***
White	***Egg***	***Clock***
Paper	***Cereal***	***Shorts***
Beach	***Orange***	***Yellow***

What kind of words did you think of ? Were they adjectives or were you using the promt words to describe a 'type' of something ?

Activity Two – Let's learn some idiomatic expressions to describe things. Match the **expressions** to the **definitions**.

Definitions

1. Impossible to retrieve
2. A gadget or any small technological item which is unusual or novel, and for which the proper term is unknown or forgotten.
3. Ordinary or uneventful.
4. Shows signs of rough treatment,
5. Exactly right, or just what you need.
6. Has aged visibly in comparison to when it was new.
7. In perfect condition
8. considered to be extremely helpful or useful and therefore of great value.
9. extremely easy to do
10. the very latest or most recent version available.
11. Extremely clean
12. If something has a very strong unpleasant smell,
13. Described in a very general way, without any details.
14. Has not been used for a long period of time

Expressions

1. Been through the wars
2. Beyond recall
3. Simplicity itself
4. In broad Strokes
5. Worth its wieght in gold
6. Collecting dust
7. In mint condition
8. As clean as a whistle
9. A gizmo
10. Run of the mill
11. Has seen better days
12. Stinks to high heaven
13. There' nothing to it !
14. Up-to-the-minute

Activity Three – **Describe** some things in your lounge at home – find something that can be described with each of the 14 idioms above.
Which descriptive words did you search for when you were thinking of those objects?

Here are some examples of adjectives

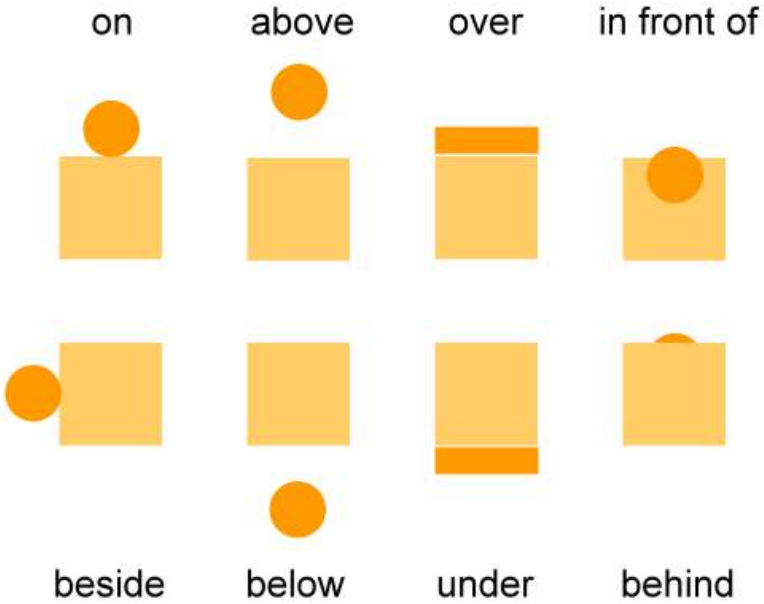
modern, old, brand new, shiny, dusty, clean, dirty, big, small, massive, tiny, huge, minute, bright, dull, light, dark, stylish, old-fashioned, well-designed, cumbersome, cosy, comfortable, uncomfortable looking, untidy, neat, tidy, cluttered, empty looking.

Remember – Adjectives of course are words that describe the attributes of nouns, such as beauty, color, age, goodness and size. In English, adjectives precede the noun they describe. **Comparative Form:** This form adds either **-er** to the adjective or **more** before the adjective to show comparisons. He is *taller* than Susie. I think I am *more intelligent* than my brother.**Superlative Form:** This form adds either **-est** to the adjective or **most** before the adjective to show superiority. She is the *smartest* student in the class. This is the *most beautiful* painting I've ever seen.**Possessive adjectives:** These show personal possession before a noun; *my, your, his, her, its, our, their*. The possesive article relates to the owner of the object described, not to the object, as objects have no gender in English of course !

Activity Four – **Twenty questions**
Think of an object and give your teacher 20 chances to guess what it is by answering their questions with yes or no.
Now you will have to guess….

Activity Five – Prepositions.
Here are some useful prepositions:

- **Above**
- **Below**
- **Under**
- **On top of**
- **Next to**
- **Behind**
- **In front of**
- **Between**
- **Opposite**
- **All over**
- **Over**
- **In**
- **Inside**
- **Outside**
- **Among**



Activity Six Now go back to your lounge at home and describe the lay out of the room now.

Example – *The sofa is under the window and there are three cushions on it…*

Activity Seven – Describe the layouts and design of these rooms.
Describe exactly what you see in the picture, the state of the different objects, their colour, size etc and also their position.





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