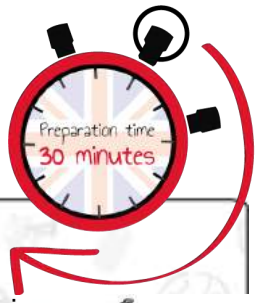
Weirdo



EAE Learning objectives for this lesson

Learn new adjectives and how to place them in the sentence. Practice describing things. Comprehension activities. Discussion practice.



Activity One- Descriptions.

1. Describe your partner. Describe their personality and style.
2. Think of a person you know or once knew who really stood out from the crowd and seemed like a bit of a weirdo. Describe them to your partner and say if you think that they were/are they in fact just original and creative?

Activity Two - Descriptions in English - Adjective word order.

The use of adjectives is essential when describing people or things or places. Good writers and speakers use adjectives well so that they can create a clear mental image for the reader or listener. As you continue to work on your English, try to use a good variety of adjectives to describe something. When using more than one adjective in a sequence, you must use the correct adjective order. The proper order of adjectives is listed below along with some examples for each category.

1. **Determiners** – a, an, the, my, your, several, etc.
2. **Observations** – lovely, boring, stimulating, etc.
3. **Size** – tiny, small, huge, etc.
4. **Shape** – round, square, rectangular, etc.
5. **Age** – old, new, ancient, etc.
6. **Color** – red, blue, green, etc.
7. **Origin** – British, American, Mexican, etc.
8. **Material** – gold, copper, silk, etc.
9. **Qualifier** – limiters for compound nouns.



For example:

- I know a lovely, creative, original guy who has a lot of great ideas.
- I met a weird old American guy the other day.
- My cousin is an original, young French woman called Fanny.
- My boyfriend is a slightly weird, creative, open minded person.
- I'm an open minded, original person but don't like to stand out from the crowd too much.

Let's try and find some more examples - describe someone or something in the class using two or more adjectives.

Activity Three - Match the word or expression to its definition.

Word	Definition
Loner	To be different from the other people around you.
Weirdo	Someone with exceptional intellectual or creative powers.
Creep	Preferences uninfluenced by fashion or other people.
Free thinker	A person whose dress or behaviour seems strange or eccentric
Genius	A person who is abnormal.
Freak	A person who rejects accepted opinions.
To stand out from the crowd	A person who is very often alone or who likes to be alone
To have individual tastes	A detestable person.
To tow the line	Unprejudiced and willing to consider new ideas
Open minded	To conform to society, to rules or to standards

Activity Four - **Describing people you know.**

- With your partner try to think of some well known people, or people you know, who meet the following descriptions and then resume your discussion for the rest of the group.
- Who would you be more likely to be friendly with and why?
- Do you know many people like this?
- Do you try to understand people who are original or different?

1. A loner who is actually a bit of a genius.
2. A creative genius who really stands out from the crowd and is very original.
3. A person with very individual tastes who is a free thinker.
4. A person who is afraid to be seen as not 'normal' and so always tows the line.
5. A conformist who does not want to stand out from the crown.
6. A person who always tries to be different.
7. A total creep who is not at all original.
8. A person who doesn't care what anyone thinks and is very open minded and original.
9. A person who is too afraid of what other people think to admit to who they really are and so they are unhappy and trapped.
10. A person who has learned to be themselves and is now happy.

Activity Five - Listen to the song and fill the gaps. (Radiohead).

"Creep"

When you were here before,
Couldn't look you in the eye,
You're just like an ……..,
Your …….. makes me cry,
You …… like a feather,
In a beautiful world,
I wish I was special,
You're so very special.

[Chorus:]
But I'm a ……., I'm a …….,
What the …… am I doing here?
I don't ……. here.

I don't care if it ……,
I want to have control,
I want a perfect body,

I want a perfect ……,
I want you to notice,

When I'm not around,
You're so very special,
I wish I was special.

But I'm a ……., I'm a ……..,
What the …….. am I doing here?
I don't …….. here.

She's running out again,
She's running out...
She run run run run...
Run...

Whatever makes you happy,
Whatever you want,
You're so very special,
I wish I was special...
But I'm a ……., I'm a ……..,
What the hell am I doing here?
I don't ……. here,
I don't ……. here.

Activity Six: Feel the fear and do it anyway!

Please prepare this at home.Read the article and answer the comprehension questions. Remember - do not try to understand everything, do not translate the article, just find out the answers to these questions:

1. Why did the author conduct an experiment?
2. What was the point of her experiment?
3. What did she learn from the experiment?
4. What advice does she give in the article?
5. Why did she leave her job?

Listen to the teacher reading the article, pay close attention to their intonation and stress.



Are You Limited by the Fear of What Other People Think?

A few months ago, I found myself on the busy streets of London's Covent Garden. It was a mild Friday evening in the capital and the masses were out celebrating the end of the working week, looking forward to the weekend ahead. But that's not why I was there.I'd come to Covent Garden on that day for a special project.

For most of my life, the fear of what other people thought of me had kept me trapped. It had prevented me from reaching my full potential and from enjoying life to its fullest.

I couldn't bring myself to dance in public for fear that people would point and laugh. At work I was unable to voice my opinions for fear they'd be thought stupid. And at my lowest point, even walking down the street became a struggle, as my mind ran wild with images of people talking about and laughing at me as I went by.

I lived a half-life. I knew I was missing out. I also knew I had so much more to contribute to this world. But I was paralysed by the fear that if I put myself out there I'd be ridiculed and rejected.

But sixteen months ago, things began to change. Filled with an increasing sense that I wasn't living my purpose and a vast emptiness from the lack of meaning my life seemed to have, I quit my corporate office job in search of answers, determined to live a more fulfilling life.

I made a commitment to myself then to face each and every one of my fears and to find a way to reconnect to the real Leah and let her out into the world.
The last sixteen months of my life have been challenging, as I commit every day to living a little further outside my comfort zone. But being in that space of discomfort and crossing the threshold from fear into courage has led to the fulfilment I craved as I realise just how much I'm capable of.

I arrived in Covent Garden, in the hope of now encouraging others to free themselves of that fear of what others think and embrace life in its entirety. And so there I stood, on the crowded streets of London that evening, holding a sign made from old cereal boxes, saying:"How often does the fear of what other people think stop you from doing something?" The reaction to this simple question was amazing. People stopped and took notice.

Some smiled knowingly, acknowledging that their own lives had been affected by the fear of what others think. Some nodded with something of a sad look on their face. Perhaps there was something they really wanted to do but were being held back by that fear. Others engaged in conversation, sharing their

stories of how the fear of what other people thought had touched their lives or how they'd learned not to care so much.

That day, I experienced for the very first time the extent to which the fear of what other people think affects our lives—all of our lives. What might we be capable of if we could let go of that fear?

I went home that evening having learned some valuable lessons…You're never alone.Too often we suffer our fears in silence. We believe ourselves to be the only one.Everywhere we look we seem to be surrounded by confident people. But I've come to realise that everyone—those who appear confident or shy; extroverts of introverts—we all, each and every one of us are struggling with our own fears.

When the fear of what other people think is holding you back, take a look around and remember, everyone is living with his or her own fear. You are not alone. By confronting your fears you help others confront theirs.More than anything, when you stop caring what others think and set out to achieve your goals and dreams, you give others the power to do the same.

Being open about your fears and confronting them head on could be the greatest gift you ever give.What you think they think isn't the reality. Those people over there? The ones you think are talking about you? Judging you? They're not. Really. They don't have time. They're too busy worrying about what people are thinking about them!

And even if they were looking at you, judging you, talking about you, you can be almost certain they're not saying the awful things you imagine. Instead, they're envying the color of your hair, your shoes, the way you look so confident.What we think people think of us doesn't come close to the reality.

Freedom from the fear of what others think is possible. The fear of what other people think of us is like a cage.

Over time you become so used to being inside that cage you eventually come to forget what the outside might be like. You resign yourself to living within its walls. By taking deliberate and purposeful action to overcome the fear of what others think of you, you slowly regain your freedom and escape from the confines of the prison you've created for yourself.

Don't let the fear of what other people think stop you from living the life you were born to live.

Source - http://tinybuddha.com/blog/are-you-limited-by-the-fear-of-what-other-people-think/

Activity Seven - Describe the reaction people could have to these signs.







Activity Eight - **Sign writing** - With your partner think of a statement you could write on a sign and walk in the street with in order to get a reaction. What would your sign say and why?

Activity Nine - Watch the videos and describe what you see with as many adjectives as you can.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oZvYvOkqxA8
- What if the homeless gave you money.

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Rsc-2oMB0s
- The homeless child experiment.

Activity Ten **- Act out a scene in a group.**

One person is holding a sign and the others will react, by walking past or by intervening in some way.

