

# Compound adjectives

An adjective is either: 1/**simple** i.e. made up of only one component /word. Eg: huge, beautiful, fertile etc.  
or 2/ **compound** i.e. made up of two or more components. Those components are always separated by a hyphen (-).

Melissa, that **sun-tanned** girl wearing **brand-new** jeans, is **absent-minded** (forgetful), **good-tempered** (cheerful), **warm-hearted** (kind), and **quick-witted** (intelligent) if perhaps a little **big-headed** (proud of herself), **two-faced** (hypocritical) and **self-centred** (egotistical) at times.

## Types of compound adjectives

|   |                                    |
|---|------------------------------------|
| <b>Type 1: Noun + past participle</b>         | eg: a hand-made pullover.          |
| <b>Type 2: Noun + adjective</b>               | eg: a duty-free shop.              |
| <b>Type 3: Noun + verb + ing</b>              | eg: a heart-breaking story         |
| <b>Type 4: Adjective + noun</b>               | eg: a long-distance lorry driver   |
| <b>Type 5: Adjective + noun + ed</b>          | eg: a broad-shouldered man         |
| <b>Type 6: Adjective + verb + ing</b>         | eg: an easy-going boy              |
| <b>Type 7: Adverb + past participle</b>       | eg: a smartly-dressed woman        |
| <b>Type 8: Adverb + verb + ing</b>            | eg: incredibly-convincing answer   |
| <b>Type 9: Ordinal number + noun</b>          | eg: a second-hand car              |
| <b>Type 10: Number + year + old</b>           | eg: a thirty-year-old man          |
| <b>Type 11: Number + singular noun</b>        | eg: a ten-pound note               |
| <b>Type 12: past participle + preposition</b> | eg: worn-out shoes/a built-up area |

## Exercise: Express differently using compound adjectives

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1/ I saw a sailor with only one eye               | 2/ My friend uses his left hand                 |
| 3/ The car was maintained badly                   | 4/ He shouts because he is in a bad temper      |
| 5/ She has to go on diet with no sugar            | 6/ A woman with straight hair                   |
| 7/ This lady is thirty five years old             | 8/ We need a guide who speaks Spanish           |
| 9/ The film Provokes thought                      | 10/ A satellite that orbits the earth           |
| 11/ A magazine of 200 pages                       | 12/ She revised for the exam in the last minute |
| 13/ In my family we are six children              | 14/ This artist is famous in the world          |
| 15/ The shop is has an air conditioner            | 16/ This task consumes a lot of time            |
| 17/ She got a credit that is free of any interest | 18/ She got a seat in the first class           |