

Adjectival functions (see *Wheelock's 106*)

Read through the following summary of the four types of adjectives (or the four adjectival functions), and then work through the two sets of exercises, the first in English and the second in Latin. The answers to the exercises are on page 2.

A basic summary of the four types of adjectives:

1. An attributive adjective is your garden-variety adjective. It simply modifies a noun, usually by being placed next to it; an attributive adjective and the noun it modifies are thought of as a single unit. In the following sentence, 'green' is an attributive adjective: "The **green** coat was lost."

2. If the adjective is modifying a noun that is an object, and if the action of the verb causes the adjectival state to come into being, the adjective is an objective complement. In the following sentence, 'green' is an objective complement. "My daughter colored her coat **green**." (And yes, she actually did.)

3. If the adjective does not modify a noun but stands alone and is itself used as a noun, it is a substantive adjective. In the following sentence, 'green' is a substantive adjective. "**Greens** are not in style this season."

4. If the adjective is connected to the subject of a clause by means of 'is' or another copulative verb, it is a predicate adjective. In the following sentence, 'green' is a predicate adjective. "The coat is **green**."

A. (in Anglicā) Tell how each underlined adjective functions in the following sentences.

1. The red barn burned down. _____
2. We painted the barn red. _____
3. The barn is red. _____
4. The Reds won last night. _____

B. (in Latīnā) Tell how each underlined adjective functions in the following sentences.

1. Fortēs fortūnam superant. _____
2. Fortūna saepe virōs fortēs facit. _____
3. Paucī virī sunt fortēs. _____
4. Fortis mēns est bona. _____

Answers:

A. 1) attributive, 2) objective complement, 3) predicate adjective, 4) substantive

B. 1) substantive, 2) objective complement, 3) predicate adjective, 4) attributive