

## 10.1 Order of adjectives

### GR10.1 )))

- 1 It was a **lovely bright sunny day** when we arrived at the beach, but it wasn't long till the **nasty black clouds** appeared.
- 2 The model was wearing **shiny black leather high heels** and a **beautiful, elegant black suit**.
- 3 He bought an **exquisite 18th-century silver teapot** at the auction.
- 4 I've just thrown out my mother's **old black-and-white TV**. She had put it in the attic.
- 5 She was **young, charming and fearless**.

When we use more than one adjective before a noun, the adjectives are usually put in the following particular order:  
opinion/value → size → age → shape → colour → origin/nationality → purpose/function/definition → material

*They live in a **beautiful old** cottage near a river.* (opinion → age)

*They're building a **big car** factory.* (size → purpose)

*We watched a **brilliant old French** film.* (opinion → age → origin/nationality)

*The library is the **big red-and-grey** building behind the car park.* (size → colour)

- To express purpose/function/definition, we often use a noun instead of an adjective (e.g. *car door*).
- We always use *and* between two colours (e.g. *red-and-grey, black-and-white*).
- Before nouns, we usually use commas between adjectives which give similar information, for example in descriptions:  
*a cheap, ill-fitting leather coat*
  - If the adjectives are short and common, we can drop the commas:  
*a big red fluffy teddy*

When adjectives come after a verb, rather than before a noun, the order of adjectives is more flexible and we often put an opinion adjective last. Also, we generally put *and* before the final adjective.

*I thought the film was **boring and totally predictable**.*

*The room was **small, dark and damp-smelling**.*

- 1 Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.
  - 1 We had *lovely sunny / sunny lovely* weather for the whole week.
  - 2 Mine are the *leather black / black leather* boots by the door.
  - 3 My in-laws live in a *little lovely / lovely little* village just outside Durham.
  - 4 I've just sold a *silver 19th-century / 19th-century silver* plate for £500.
  - 5 The guy with *short dark / dark short* hair is Jim, and the one wearing the *football red and white / red and white football* shirt is Luke.
  - 6 We watched a/an *old black-and-white French / black-and-white French old / French old black-and-white* film last night.
- 2 Rewrite the sentences to include the adjective or adjectives in brackets in the correct position. Add *and* if needed.
  - 1 We had fantastic weather on holiday. (*sunny*)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 2 We saw lots of amazing architecture. (*16th-century*)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 3 We had some homemade cake. (*chocolate / delicious*)  
\_\_\_\_\_
  - 4 Jenny was wearing a dress. (*silk / long / beautiful / red-and-gold*)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Put the words in brackets in the right order to complete the text.

The Taj Mahal is a <sup>1</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (achievement / structural / truly incredible) and the most famous example of <sup>2</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (17th-century / architecture / Indo-Islamic) anywhere. Its <sup>3</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (beauty / visual / stunning) has a combination of arches and domes and light and shadow. The beauty of the building is enhanced by its <sup>4</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (green / sub-tropical / surroundings) and the <sup>5</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (sky / blue / clear) above it. The <sup>6</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (white / ornate / walls), which are embedded with thousands of <sup>7</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (stones / wonderful / semi-precious), constantly change colour during the day as the sun changes its position in the sky. The <sup>8</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (large / chamber / domed), which houses the <sup>9</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (resting / final / places) of the Emperor Shah Jahan and his wife Mumtaz Mahal, is at the centre of the building. There are four <sup>10</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (round / imposing / minarets / tall) at each corner of the main chamber. The view as you walk through the <sup>11</sup>\_\_\_\_\_ (gate / majestic / main) which stands in the centre of the southern wall is one that a visitor will never forget.

## 10.2 conditional and conjunction clauses

### GR10.2

- You **get** a medal **if** you **finish** in the top three.
- If anyone **asks**, you **can say** you're with me.
- If I **get** the job, I'm **going to move** to San Francisco.
- We'll **decide** what to do **when** we **get** there.
- Give me your number **in case** I **need** to call you.
- I won't call you **unless** I'm **running** late.
- I know Sam will open his present **as soon as** he **gets** it.

We can use conditional sentences to express something real or possible.

#### if + present tense + present tense.

- To talk about something which automatically happens as a result of something else we usually use **if + present tense + present tense**. This structure is sometimes called a 'zero conditional'.

*If the battery is low, the red light flashes.*

*If the red light is flashing, it means that the ink is low.*

*If you've finished the exam, you can leave.*

- Note that we can use any present tense, including the present continuous, present perfect and modal verbs in either clause.

#### if + present + future.

- To talk about something which is possible in the future, we usually use **if + present + future**. The structure is sometimes called a 'first conditional'.

*If you don't listen, you won't know what to do, will you?*

*We're going to be late if we don't leave now.*

*If I can, I'll call you later tonight.*

*If it gets any colder, it might snow.*

- As above, note that we can use any present tense in the *if*-clause and any future form (*going to*, *will*, future continuous, future perfect) or a modal verb in the main clause.

We can put the *if*-clause and the main clause in either order. When the *if*-clause is first, it is followed by a comma. When it is at the end, there is no comma.

*If you're late, you'll get into trouble.*

*You'll get into trouble if you're late.*

- Conjunctions such as *unless*, *in case* and *as long as* and time conjunctions such as *when*, *as soon as*, *while*, *before*, etc. are followed by a present tense.

*You should take your umbrella in case it rains.*

*Unless I call you, I'll meet you at 6.30 p.m.*

*I'll let you know as soon as I've heard any news.*

*I'll be waiting for you when you arrive.*

- Choose the correct options to complete the sentences.
  - If they *don't sell* / *won't sell* many tickets, the show *is cancelled* / *will be cancelled*.
  - It's an open-air show, but if *it's raining* / *will be raining*, they *have* / *'ll have* it inside the hall.
  - In football, if you *win* / *will win* a game, you *get* / *'ll get* three points and if you draw, you *get* / *will get* one point.
  - I think the band *does* / *will do* an encore if people *cheer* / *will cheer* loudly enough.
  - I *get* / *'ll get* you a ticket for the concert if you *want* / *'ll want* me to.
  - Is there* / *Will there be* a charge if I *pay* / *will pay* by credit card?
  - I *come* / *might come* to the concert with you if that's / *will be* OK.
  - If I'm *running* / *run* late, I *call* / *'ll call* to let you know.

- Complete the sentences with the words in the box. For each set there is one extra option.

1 as soon as in case while

A I'm afraid Mr James is running a little late. He'll be with you \_\_\_\_\_ his meeting finishes.

B That's OK. I'll do a bit of work \_\_\_\_\_ I'm waiting.

2 as long as as soon as in case once

A Hurry up! They won't let us in the theatre \_\_\_\_\_ the play has started. And it starts in twenty minutes.

B OK. I'll be ready to leave \_\_\_\_\_ I've sent these emails.

A OK, \_\_\_\_\_ it doesn't take too long.

3 as long as in case unless when

A I'll take the satnav \_\_\_\_\_ there's a problem with the traffic and I have to take a different route.

B Good idea. I think you'll be fine \_\_\_\_\_ there's an accident or something. Anyway, let me know \_\_\_\_\_ you arrive.

4 as long as as soon as unless

A I'll lend you the money \_\_\_\_\_ you can pay me back before next week.

B No problem. I'll pay you back \_\_\_\_\_ I can get to a cash machine.