

Another phrasal verb to be found in the passage is *to break out*, which means 'to erupt'. *Break out* can also mean 'begin' (war, disease) or 'escape'. Other verbs with *break* are:

break free → a) release oneself

break into → a) intrude

break off → a) stop b) detach a part of something

break down → a) stop working (for an object) b) mental collapse

break up → a) finish b) break into pieces

WORD STUDY

Two common endings of adjectives are the suffixes *-al* and *-ic*: *Morris transformed the visual impact of Anglican churchgoing. The English aesthetic movement.*

Exercise 6

Use the appropriate suffix to create an adjective and make new sentences.

1) *symbol*

2) *space*

3) *photograph*

4) *history*

5) *aesthete*

6) *structure*

7) *form*

8) *icon*

GRAMMAR REVIEW

PARTICIPLE ADJECTIVES

There are many ways to form adjectives. One way, as seen in the passage, is by adding suffixes to nouns. In this passage there are several adjectives with Present Participle (-*ing*) and Past Participle (-*ed* or irregular) endings:

boring, roving, twisting, mannered, standardised.

The Present Participle is active in meaning:

Burne-Jones found Impressionism boring.

Here it is Impressionism which *bores* Burne-Jones.

The Past Participle is passive in meaning, so that we could say: *Burne-Jones was bored by Impressionism.* Different prepositions may follow these forms:

amazed by, annoyed about/with, bored by/with, disappointed with/by, excited about/by, frightened by, interested by/in, moved by, pleased with.

Exercise 7

Form the adjective with the correct participle in each sentence.

- 1) The Pre-Raphaelites found traditional art (DISSATISFY).
- 2) They wanted to be (REFINE).
- 3) The art critics were (SHOCK).
- 4) Charles Dickens was not (PLEASE).
- 5) Morris and Burne-Jones thought Ruskin's prose was (THRILL).
- 6) The Brotherhood dreamed of beautifully (ADORN) Gothic churches.
- 7) Swinburne wrote (ASTONISH) imitations of Greek poetry.
- 8) He was deeply (INTEREST) in the Italian Risorgimento.

COMPOUND ADJECTIVES

Another type of adjective is formed by an adjective/noun/adverb + participle. The two words are usually joined together with a hyphen (though now there is a tendency to omit it):

long-lasting porcelain-skinned dreamsuffused.

Exercise 8

Form a new compound adjective from each sentence below.

- 1) Burne-Jones worked hard.

He was _____.

- 2) Swinburne had a quick mind.

He was _____.

- 3) Morris had a strong will.

He was _____.

- 4) The ideals of the Pre-Raphaelites provoke thoughts about aesthetics.

They are _____.

- 5) They dressed well.

They were _____.

- 6) Burne-Jones did not love nature.

He was not _____.

TRANSLATION

Both the Simple Present and the Present Continuous tense translate the Italian **presente indicativo** as there is little difference:

He always paints at night.

Dipinge sempre di notte.

“What are you doing?” - “I’m writing”.

“Che fai?” - “Scrivo”.

The prefix *dis-* is added to verbs, nouns and adjectives to give a negative meaning: *Formal drama largely disappeared after the fall of the Roman Empire.*

Exercise 1

Write sentences using the following words.

disappointed

dislike

dishonest

disobedient

discomfort

disagree

discomfort

disbelief

GRAMMAR REVIEW

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

One syllable adjectives form their comparative and superlative by adding *-er* and *-est*:

high

higher

the highest

low

lower

the lowest

Two syllable adjectives ending in *-le*, *-y*, *-ow*, *-er* form their comparative and superlative by adding *-er* and *-est*:

noble

nobler

noblest

pretty

prettier

prettiest

narrow

narrower

narrowest

clever

cleverer

cleverest

Adjectives of three or more syllables form their comparative and superlative by adding *more* and *most*:

interesting

more interesting

most interesting

beautiful

more beautiful

most beautiful

Some irregular comparisons:

bad

worse

the worst

good

better

the best

little

less

the least

many/much

more

the most

In the comparative form the second object which is compared to the first is introduced by the word *than*: *The mystery plays were more elaborate than the mime tropes.*

The superlative has the definite article *the* in front, except when there is a possessive adjective or a possessive case: *The dog is the best hunter*, but *The dog is man's best friend*.

The superlative is followed by the preposition *in* when the object is a place or collective noun: *He is the best actor in the world*. *She is the worst student in the class*.

If the superlative refers to two elements then the comparative form is used: *She is the better singer of the two*.

The absolute superlative is formed by putting *very* + adjective: *It is very big*.

However, an absolute adjective is preferred: *It is huge*.

To express the same degree *as* + adjective/adverb/quantifier + *as* is used for the affirmative: *The play is as popular as ever*.

Not as/so + adjective/adverb/quantifier is used for the negative: *The theatre is not so/as popular today as in the past*.

Exercise 2

Choose the correct comparative or superlative form in these sentences.

- 1) *The Decameron* contains some of Boccaccio's *best* / *better* lyric poetry.
- 2) Religious literature was *the most* / *the more* prevalent genre in the Middle Ages.
- 3) The *commonest* / *most common* types of books were breviaries, missals and books of hours.
- 4) Liturgical drama was *more* / *most* formal than mime tropes.
- 5) The stage in Elizabethan theatre was *more* / *very* high.
- 6) The audience was *not as* / *more* quiet as spectators are today.
- 7) Shakespeare introduced *more* / *the more* new words into the English language than any other writer.
- 8) The theatre is *more interesting than* / *more interesting of* the cinema.

—▷ **Exercise 1**

Here are other similar words which mean 'false'. With the help of a dictionary, complete the sentences with the words below.

fraud *forgery* *hoax* *counterfeit* *imitation*

- 1) The painting was a clever _____ and it took a long time for the critics to realise this.
- 2) He admitted possessing and delivering _____ currency.
- 3) She believes that this 'psychic' is a _____ who relies on subtle deception.
- 4) The bomb _____ disrupted Christmas shopping in the city centre.
- 5) She had a complete set of Shakespeare bound in _____ leather.

WORD STUDY

The suffix *-ive* is added to a verb to form an adjective: *construct* → *constructive*.

—▷ **Exercise 2**

Change the verb to an adjective and write a sentence.

- 1) *communicate* _____
- 2) *impress* _____
- 3) *act* _____
- 4) *progress* _____
- 5) *intense* _____

—▷ **GRAMMAR REVIEW**

ABSOLUTE ADJECTIVES

Absolute adjectives are generally used in place of the absolute superlative:
The media plays a very huge (= very big) role in the everyday lives of the population.

Some of the most common absolute adjectives are: *hilarious* (very funny), *starving* (very hungry), *furious* (very angry), *awful* (very bad), *brilliant* (very clever), *tiny* (very small), *boiling* (very hot), *terrified/terrifying* (very frightened/very frightening), *fantastic* (very good), *enormous* (very big), *filthy* (very dirty), *freezing/frozen* (very cold).

Very is not used with these adjectives.

Some absolute adjectives are placed together with a base adjective to reinforce the meaning:

The room is freezing cold.

The water is boiling hot.

Exercise 3

Use one of the absolute adjectives below to complete the sentences.

freezing tiny starving hilarious terrified filthy furious brilliant

- 1) The children played all day in the sand and were _____.
- 2) People who suffer from arachnophobia are _____ of spiders.
- 3) I thought the comedy was _____.
- 4) His mother was _____ when she saw his untidy room.
- 5) The room was absolutely _____ and they had to stamp their feet to keep warm.
- 6) The writing was so _____ that I needed a magnifying glass to read it.
- 7) Einstein was a _____ scientist.
- 8) There are still millions of people in the world who are _____.

ADVERBS OF DEGREE

The most common adverbs of degree are :

quite, nearly, almost, rather, fairly, so, only, very, extremely, absolutely, entirely, far, (very) much, completely, utterly, really, too, enough.

Remember that *very much* is never placed between the verb and the object:

I like music very much.

I very much like music.

Adverbs of degree modify other adverbs or adjectives. They are normally placed before the adverb or adjective they modify. The adverb *enough*, however, follows the adjective or adverb.

The adverbs *absolutely*, *utterly*, *really* are used together with absolute adjectives: *The film was absolutely terrifying*. They are normally only used in informal spoken English. The other adverbs of degree in fact cannot be used with base adjectives, with the exception of *quite*, which can have several meanings:

- a) quite + base adjective expresses an idea of completeness: *You are quite right*. Here the meaning is that you are totally right.
- b) quite + base adjective: *The film was quite good*. Here the meaning can depend on the tone, but usually means less than *very good*.
- c) quite + absolute adjective: *The discovery was quite amazing*. The adverb reinforces the adjective.

The adverb *only* is placed next to the word to be modified and is placed before adjectives, adverbs and verbs and after nouns and pronouns:

He only gave me ten pounds. *Members only.*

The meaning of a sentence can change according to where *only* is placed:

Only you understand me = No one else understands me.

You understand me only = You understand me and no one else.

→ Exercise 4

Put a suitable adverb of degree in the following sentences.

enough too very much quite really only

- 1) The meal was _____ fantastic.
- 2) I don't like this book _____. It's boring.
- 3) You _____ have to go there for an hour.
- 4) The tea is _____ hot. I can't drink it yet.
- 5) The weather is not warm _____ to wear a T-shirt.
- 6) She is _____ pretty but you should see her sister.