

Adjective dominoes: Order of adjectives

by Jill Hadfield

Level: Intermediate

Target age: Secondary / adult

Time needed: 15-20 minutes

Grammar objective: to practise adjective order

Materials: copies of the adapted table cut into cards, four objects of different sizes, shapes and colour.

Summary: This activity for groups of four students focuses on accuracy and is based on the game of dominoes.

Group game

- Place the objects on a table at the front of the room where everyone can see them.
- Elicit descriptions of the objects from the students.
- Give each group of four students a set of cards and ask them to deal them out.
- Tell them they are going to put the cards in the correct order to describe the four objects.
- The first player begins by putting an **A** card on the table if he/she has one; if not, the turn passes to the next player. The next player can continue by putting a size adjective after **A** if he/she has one, e.g.: **A big**.
- The third player can put a shape adjective down but only if it correctly describes one of the objects (i.e.: if you have brought in a big round red cushion, and all your other objects are small, the only card that can be added after **A big is round**).
- The fourth player adds a colour adjective which again must correctly describe the object. The first player adds the correct noun.
- If a player cannot add a card, the turn passes to the next player. When one object description is complete, they can begin a new one.

(It is best to set up this game by demonstrating what to do with one group while the others watch.)

Mingling game

- This is an alternative to the above game.
- Give out one card to each student in the class.
- Students have to walk around and tell each other their word until they find the four other students whose words will combine to make a description of one of the objects you have brought in.
- They should then arrange themselves in the right order to make the description.

Links to other related resources on onestopenglish

<http://www.onestopenglish.com/grammar/fun-with-grammar/intermediate/the-ring-game-order-of-adjectives/157384.article>

<http://www.onestopenglish.com/methodology/teaching-tips/grammar-and-vocabulary-tips/grammar-putting-adjectives-in-order/153513.article>

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Adapt this table so that it describes the four objects you have brought into class:



A	small	round	white	plate
A	big	square	red	cushion
A	small	oval	blue	ring
A	small	square	green	stamp