

Intermediate

1 Antonyms

Match the adjectives below to the word which means the opposite:

tall ugly
weak mean
young small
fat short
beautiful thin
generous old
big strong

Match the adjectives

Match the adjectives in A below to the adjectives in B. Example: *middle-aged* is closest in meaning to *old/young*:

A B A

overweight short good-looking elderly fat slim

middle-aged tall of medium height

chubbyyoungskinnymuscularstrongattractivehandsomegenerousgorgeouswell-builtthinplain

petite beautiful big mean ugly old

Which of the words above have a negative, critical meaning?

Which of the words in list A can be used to describe the people below?

small

a. a man b. a woman

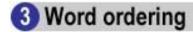
c. a person over 50 d. a person over 70 e. a bodybuilder f. a supermodel

g. you





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Put the adverbs in order from the weakest to the strongest:

weakest strongest

really	fairly	not very	very
extremely	absolutely	quite	

Match an adverb from the list above to one of the adjectives in exercises 1 and 2, then write a sentence to rephrase the sentences below.

Example: She is 97 years old: She's extremely old OR she is very elderly.

- 1 She's the most beautiful woman in the world.
- 2 He is an Olympic weightlifter.
- 3 She will only eat one piece of fruit a day, and nothing else.
- 4 Since I stopped cycling to work, I've put on a bit of weight.
- 5 Frank is the best-looking man in the world.

Absolutely only goes with one adjective from exercises 1 and 2. Which adjective? Why?

Match the adjectives

Match the parts of the face with the list of adjectives that can be used to describe them:

ears	nose	Eyes	lips
big	snub	point	ed
thin	full	sexy	
big	bright	blue	
big	cauliflower	sticky	/-out





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Holywood actors and actresses required!

Read this advertisement from a Hollywood magazine. Do you think they are looking for the lead actor for the movie *Superman XII*, or the movie *Everlasting Love*?

Mirrorman Studios seek a tall, muscular man with bright, blue eyes and full, sexy lips to play in our new movie. He must be extremely handsome, fit and athletic, and very strong. Experience of flying important. Please apply to Mirrorman Studios.

Now, using the adjectives you have learned, write an advertisement, seeking lead actors or actresses for one of the following movies:

Braveheart II
Die Hard VI
Star Wars Episode IX
Two Weddings and a Birthday Party
True Love
The Funny Policeman

6 Describe your family

Prepare to describe people in your family. Think of two or three people in your family and write notes to describe them. When you are ready, work with a partner, and ask and answer questions:

Can you describe	_(your mother, father, sist	er, brother)?
What does he / she look like?		





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Teacher's notes – Describing people (Intermediate)

At this level it is a good idea to find visuals to help teach these words. You could bring in pictures from magazines of different people. Ask the students to describe the pictures, eliciting descriptive words and phrases. Put the students in pairs to match the adjectives to their opposite.

Answers:

tall = short ugly = beautiful weak = strong old = young big = small fat = thin

2 Put the students in pairs to match the adjectives B to the adjectives in A. They should match by deciding how close the words are in meaning.

Answers:

,					
overweight	=	fat	good-looking	=	beautiful
elderly	=	old	slim	=	thin
middle-aged	=	old/young	of medium height	=	tall/short
chubby	=	fat	skinny	=	thin
muscular	=	strong	attractive	=	beautiful
handsome	=	beautiful	gorgeous	=	beautiful
well-built	=	strong	plain	=	ugly/beautiful
petite	=	small/thin			

A negative, critical meaning: skinny or plain.

The words that can particularly be used to describe:

a. a man = Handsome is almost always only used with men. All the other words

can be used to describe men, except petite and plain (it is rare to

describe a man as beautiful).

b. a woman = Petite and plain are only used with women. All the other

words can be used to describe women (it is rare to describe a woman

as handsome or well-built).

c. a person over 50 = middle-aged

d. a person over 70 = elderly

e. a bodybuilder = well-built, muscular

f. a supermodel = good-looking, attractive, gorgeous, slim, skinny

g. you = students' own ideas

3 Ask the students to put the adverbs in order from the weakest to the strongest. Answers:

not very > quite > fairly > very > really > extremely > absolutely

Put the students in pairs to match an adverb from the list to one of the adjectives in exercises 1 and 2, then write a sentence to rephrase the sentences. Read through the example. It is important that they note that not all of the adverbs collocate with all of the adjectives.

Suggested answers:

- 1. She's absolutely gorgeous.
- 3. She's very skinny.
- 5. Frank is very handsome.
- 2. He's extremely muscular/strong/well-built.
- 4. I'm quite/fairly chubby.





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Note: absolutely only goes with gorgeous. This is because we only use absolutely with very strong, extreme adjectives. You could give students other examples. For example, very big, absolutely enormous.

4 Ask the students to match the parts of the face with the list of adjectives that can be used to describe them.

Answers:

ears = big, cauliflower, sticky-out

nose = big, snub, pointed eyes = big, bright, blue lips = thin, full, sexy

5 Ask the students to read the advertisement from a Hollywood magazine and answer the question.

Answer:

They are looking for the lead actor for the movie, Superman XII.

Ask the students to write a short advertisement, seeking lead actors or actresses for one of the movies in the list. Monitor and help with ideas and vocabulary. When the students have finished, redistribute their advertisements for other students to read and guess which film an actor or actress is required for.

Give the students a few minutes to prepare to describe people in their family. When they are ready, put the students in pairs or small groups to ask and answer questions. You may need to check they know the question structure. Write the question structure on the board if necessary.

