

A crazy story by Maricruz Garrido

Age:	Teenagers
Level:	Intermediate
Time:	60 minutes
Objectives:	To practise using adjectives to describe people; to learn the correct order of adjectives
Key skills:	Vocabulary, writing
Materials:	One copy of the worksheet per student (cut along dotted line); one copy of the 'Order of adjectives' sheet per student

Example story

It happened in Venice last summer. I was walking down the street when I saw a friendly, tall, young banana with curly brown hair sitting on the ground. It seemed happy to see me. I didn't know what to do. At first, I thought of going surfing but then I changed my mind and decided to join a gym. Finally, I invited him over to dinner.

We have been excellent friends ever since.

Description

Students create a crazy story that makes no sense at all but is grammatically correct, then draw a comic strip to illustrate it.

Procedure

1. Hand out the questionnaire, or, if you prefer, write it up on the board. Students write their answers down.
2. Hand out the story template. Students complete with their answers to the questionnaire – their answer to question 1 in the questionnaire is used to fill gap 1 in the story, their answer to question 2 completes gap 2, and so on.
3. Draw students' attention to the order of the adjectives before the noun in gaps 3 and 4. Ask them questions like, 'Do you say *long blond hair* or *blond long hair*? Why?' (Answer: You say *long blond hair* because adjectives describing shape come before adjectives describing colour.)
4. Give out the 'Order of adjectives' handout. The 'magic' word *OSASHCOM* helps students remember the order of adjectives before a noun. They should check that the adjectives in their stories are in the correct order.
3. Students read their crazy stories out to the rest of the class.
4. Finally, students draw a comic strip of their story and display them around the classroom.

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Questionnaire

1. Name a famous city _____
2. Name an adjective describing your best friend's personality _____
3. Name two adjectives describing your neighbour's physical appearance _____
4. Name your favourite fruit _____
5. Name two adjectives describing your favourite YouTuber's hair _____
6. Name how you feel while you're on holiday _____
7. Name something you love doing in your free time (ending in *-ing*) _____
8. Name a New Year's resolution (*to + infinitive*) _____

Story template

It happened in _____ (1) last summer. I was walking down the street when I saw a _____ (2), _____ (3), _____ (3) _____ (4) with _____ (5), _____ (5) hair sitting on the ground. It seemed _____ (6) to see me.

I didn't know what to do ... At first, I thought of _____ (7) but then I changed my mind and decided _____ (8). Finally, I _____ (open ending).

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If you want to put adjectives before a noun, remember the magic word OSASHCOM.

Opinion

Size

Age

SHape

Colour

Origin

Material

If you use a **noun** as an adjective, it must go right before the noun.

Examples

- an exciting new **grammar** activity
- your lovely **English** teacher