

智能英语



BETTER WAYS  
with

# Adjectives

形容词·副词

# & Adverbs

海蒂·普拉特



外文出版社



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## ADJECTIVES & ADVERBS

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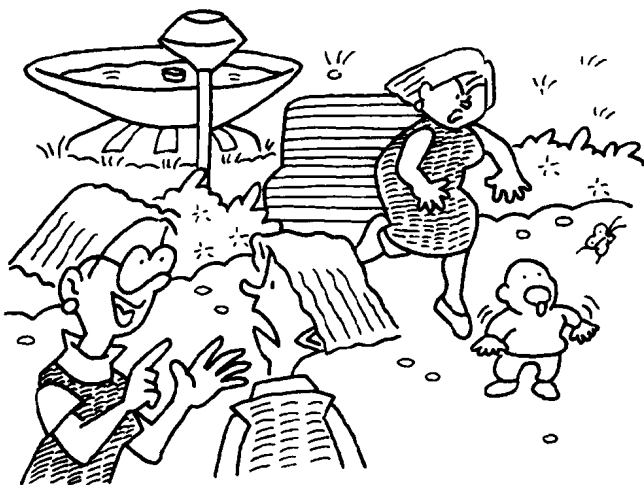
## Contents

- 1 Very Much Alive 1**
- 2 Exhausted or Exhausting? 5**
- 3 For The Matured Woman 9**
- 4 Continuous Or Continual? 13**
- 5 Subconscious Or Unconscious? 17**
- 6 A Disinterested Observer 21**
- 7 Is She Efficient, Effective or Efficacious? 25**
- 8 A Small Great Dane 29**
- 9 Unusual Or Weird? 33**
- 10 Black Wavy Hair Or Wavy Black Hair? 37**
- 11 It Must Be Somewhere? 41**
- 12 Will He Soon? 45**
- 13 It Happened A Week Ago 49**
- 14 He Spoke Very Shortly On The Phone 53**
- 15 You Have Ever Been In My Heart 57**
- 16 Nothing Never Went Right For Me 61**
- 17 It's Really Tasty! 65**
- 18 It's Quite Nice 71**

- 19 Very Recommended? 75
- 20 She's Moreover Very Hardworking 79
- 21 Luckily She Offered Him A Lift 83
- 22 Certainly Not 87
- 23 Hundred Dollars Over 91
- 24 He Hasn't Come Already! 93
- 25 I Don't Like Durians Either! 97
- 26 There's Nobody Else 101
- 27 We're So Late! 103
- 28 He Hardly Hit Her 107
- 29 Is The Air More Cleaner? 111
- 30 Is It Much Further or Farther? 115
- 31 Do I Look Well? 119
- 32 How's Your English? 123
- 33 He's Been Working Lately 127
- 34 Lonely Or Alone? 131
- 35 An Alternate Or An Alternative Plan? 135
- 36 Surely He Doesn't Want Me To Wait 139
- 37 Even My Mother-In-Law 143
- 38 The Bell Has Just Rung 147
- 39 I Threw Only A Lamp At Her 151
- 40 I'm Really Sorry About That! 155

## 1

## Very Much Alive



**Emma:** Look at Mary! She's got an **alive** child!

**Doris** (*laughs*): I should hope so!

**Emma** (*puzzled*): What do you mean?

多丽丝为什么笑埃玛说的话呢? *alive* 通常用

作 *dead* 一词的反义词。比如,警官对他的手下说:

We must take him — **dead or alive!**

埃玛的本意是 Mary 有了一个精力旺盛的孩子 (*a lively child*), 一个充满活力、特别爱动的孩子。

*alive* 不能用于名词前, 而只能出现在动词 *be* 及类似 *feel, seem* 等动词之后。比如:

*Mr. Ong is nearly eighty but he's still very much **alive**.* (爱动的, 有活力的)

英语中有许多形容词能充当名词的定语, 比如 *a lively child*, 而且也可用作表语, 如 *the child is lively*。然而, 有些形容词只能出现在名词前, 如 *mere*。可以说:

*She's a **mere** child.*

而不是:

*The child is **mere**.*

与此相反, 可以说:

*My brother was fast **asleep**.*

但不能说:

*my **asleep** brother*



既能出现在名词前又能出现在 be, become, seem, feel 等动词(所谓的系动词或联系动词)后的形容词,有时被称作**中心形容词**,比如 intelligent。例如:

*an intelligent child*

*Mary is very intelligent.*

*He wants to marry someone intelligent.*

在最后一个例子中,形容词紧跟名词,这实际上是 someone who is intelligent 的缩略形式。

有许多形容词以 a - 开头,但它们并非全是中心形容词。我们已经知道 *alive* 不是,而 *asleep* 也不是。*awake* 和 *asleep* 极少出现在名词前,比如:

*Don't disturb her, she's already asleep.*

*You could have phone me at six, I was awake.*

但不能这样说:

*an asleep person, an awake person*

相反地, *alert* 和 *aloof* 既能作定语又能作表语,如:

*an aloof person*

*Anthony is very much aloof.*

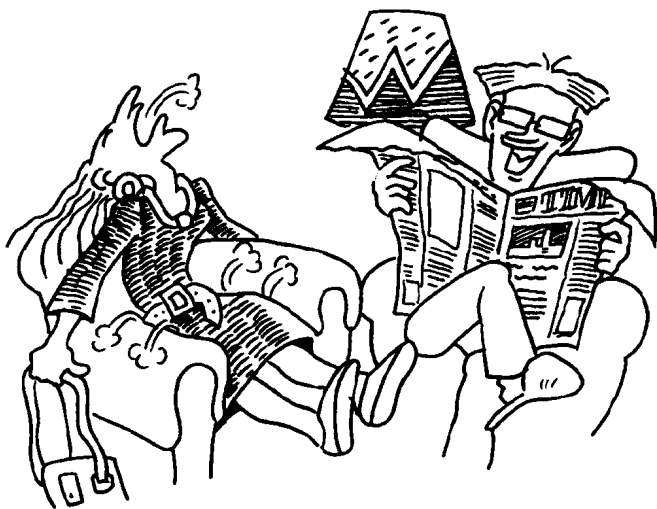
*an alert child*

*A good driver has to be alert at all times.*



# 2

## Exhausted Or Exhausting?



**Jane:** Oh, I'm very **exhausting**!

**Fred** (*laughs*): Yes, I know you are!

为什么弗雷德被逗乐了呢？有许多形容词是由动词转变而来的，其形式是以-ing 或-ed 结尾，比

如 *exciting* 和 *excited*。它们都是由动词 *to excite* 形成的,但是意思不同,比如:

*an exciting person—a person who excites others, other people find him/her very interesting and stimulating*

*an excited child—the child was excited by something (a party, a visit, a present etc.)*

*exhausting/exhausted* 也是如此。简想说自己精疲力竭(*exhausted*),即某些事情或活动使她疲惫不堪(如工作,购物)。对话中她所说的意思却成了她是一个令人精疲力竭的人(*an exhausting person*),这意味着她“令人疲惫不堪”(she exhausted people)。

其他以 *ing/ed* 结尾的单词对有:

**bored/boring:**

*I was thoroughly **bored** (something **bored** me).  
The movie was really **boring**.*

**frightened/frightening:**

*Pete was **frightened** by the thunderstorm.  
It was a **frightening** experience.*

有些以 *-ed* 结尾的形容词没有对应的动词,比如:

**unexpected:** *What an **unexpected** visit!*

**talented:** *She's a really **talented** student.*

**diseased:** *Everybody in that slum dwelling was **diseased**.*

然而,在许多以 ing/ed 结尾的形容词中,仍能感受到动词的力量,比如 I was insulted (by her behavior)。另外一些词则似乎在某种程度上成了真正的形容词。可以用副词 very 进行检验:如果一个以 ed/ing 结尾的形容词能用 very 进行修饰,它已经在很大程度上失去了动词的特性。比如不可说:

*I was **very** insulted.*

而可以说:

*That was a **very** interesting story.*



# 3

## For The Matured Woman



Alison (pointing to the sign): They must think we are cheeses?

艾莉森为什么那样说？事实上，*matured* 一词是动词 *mature* 的过去分词形式。*matured* 可以用

来形容已经储存了一段时间的酒或奶酪,比如:

*This wine/cheese has **matured** well. It has a really interesting flavour.*

广告中应该使用形容词 *mature*,意思是“成长或发展完全成熟的”。这个词有时候用作“年长的”委婉语,尤其在指化妆品方面,比如适用于成熟的女性(for the mature woman)或适用于成熟的肌肤(for the mature skin)。

*mature* 不是唯一不需要加 -d 的形容词。还有一个是 *tense*,它可以用来形容物体、身体的组成部分或人本身,比如不能说:

*You could see she was very **tensed**.*

正确的说法应是:

*You could see she was **tense**.*

另一个不需要加-d 的例子是 *hire*。

动词 *to hire* 在英式英语中指的是短期租用某物并支付租金。它还可以指“雇佣某人”(通常是短期),比如:

*We had to **hire** a couple of extra people for Margot's wedding.*

在美式英语中,*hire* 的意思是“雇佣或指定某人做某种工作”,而且雇佣的时间可能是数年。



*hired* 可以用作形容词, 比如:

*He was just a **hired** hand.*

*They suspected the man to be a **hired** killer.*

然而, 名词 *hire* 可在其他名词前起形容词的作用, 比如 *a hire car* (租用的轿车)。有许多名词可以起类似的作用, 比如:

**city council**: *a **council** for the city*

**brick wall**: *a wall made of **bricks***

**wood stove**: *a **stove** for burning wood*

**Easter holidays**: ***holidays** occurring around Easter*

在这些结构中, 被修饰的名词紧接着起形容词作用的名词(见第 10 章)。