



higher education  
& training

Department:  
Higher Education and Training  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



**SUBJECT: FOUNDATIONAL ENGLISH**  
**MODULE NAME: 4**  
**UNIT NUMBUER : 11**  
**UNIT NAME : ADJECTIVES**

# ADJECTIVES

After completing this topic, you will be able to:

1. Recall the new words in your vocabulary and describe the meaning of each
2. Write a short paragraph using guiding questions

# ADJECTIVES

## RECALL NEW WORDS IN YOUR VOCABULARY

1. Wonder ; Innovative; Nourishment ; Move to tears ; Awe
2. Humility ; Define ; Fade ; Dust ; Memory;
3. First-hand ; Magic ; Treasure ; Ancient ; Tourist
4. Attraction ; Apostles ; Cable car

# ADJECTIVES

- Wonder is nourishment for the soul. We are the only animal on earth, as far as we know, that can be moved to tears by a sunset, that marvels at the stars at night, that feels awe and humility, at the achievements of our past. Wonder defines us as human beings.
- Of the ancient Seven Wonders of the World, only the Great Pyramids remain. The others have all faded to dust and memory. As our knowledge became more global, people have created a list of new wonders of the world, which also means they can be seen first-hand. And so they should. Because the real magic of wonder is not in the thing itself, but in the fact that the more you look for wonder in the world the more the wonder of the world becomes a part of you.
- Socrates said: "Wisdom begins in wonder. Art and Science begins with wonder. Wonder is more than just a good feeling; it is a seed from which our greatest treasures grow" .xix

# QUESTIONS ON THE WONDER SCENARIO

1. What is wonder?
2. What does wonder do for us as humans?
3. What ancient Wonder still remains?
4. What has happened to the others?
5. What happens if you look for wonder in the world?

# USE “BY”, “ABOUT”, “AND”, “TO”, “IN”

At the end of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Recall the new words in your vocabulary and describe the meaning of each
2. Read and understand full paragraphs

# USE “BY”, “ABOUT”, “AND”, “TO”, “IN”

1. Ancient
2. Tombs
3. Pharaoh – Egyptian kings
4. Raid
5. Layer
6. Archaeological – related to or dealing with or devoted to archaeology
7. Excavations – the act of digging
8. Collapse – suddenly fall down or give way.
9. Measurement – the action of measuring something
10. Mummy – a body of a human being or animal that has been ceremonially

# ADJECTIVES

**By** is a preposition which can be used in different ways.

**The way something is done**

We use **by** to show how something is done:

We send a postcard or a letter **by** post.

We contact someone **by** phone or **by** email.

We pay for something **by** credit card or **by** cash.

Something happens **by** mistake, **by** accident or **by** chance.



# ADJECTIVES

## Travel

We use **by** to show how someone travels:

They came **by** car/ **by** taxi/ **by** train/ **by** plane.

Note: do not use 'the', 'my' or 'a' when you use 'by'. Instead use: '*On the plane.*' '*In my car.*' '*On a boat.*'

We can also use **by** with **-ing** to show how something happened:

'She passed her test **by** studying hard.'

'I got into the house **by** using my key.'

## 'By' with *adjectives*

**By** can be used after the following adjectives:

# ADJECTIVES

'We were **surprised by** the news.'

'I was **shocked by** his death.'

'She was **astonished by** his request'.

They were **impressed by** my exam result.'

'By' as 'next to'

# ADJECTIVES

**By is also used to mean 'next to' or 'beside'.**

'My dog came and sat **by** me.'

**Use 'by' for 'an amount'**

'He is older than me **by** 3 years.'

'We sell tomatoes **by** the kilo.'

**'By' as 'no later than'**

# ADJECTIVES

## ‘By’ as ‘no later than’

‘Give me your homework **by** Friday.’

‘The boy must be in bed **by** 9 o’clock.’

## ‘By’ as ‘alone’

myself/ yourself/ himself/ herself/ ourselves/ yourselves/ themselves

‘I stayed at home **by** myself and read the newspaper.’

‘The cat opened the door **by** himself.’<sup>xxi</sup>

## 12.3 Using “About to”

- **Different uses of about**
- The preposition **about** has several uses. It can refer to movement or position in different directions or places.
- The children were running about. (= The children were running in many directions.)
- Clothes were lying about the room. (= Clothes were lying all over the room.)
  
- **About** can also mean near or nearby.
- Is anybody about? = Is anybody nearby?
- There was no one about (nearby) to save the boy from drowning.
  
- **About** can mean in connection with.
- We talked about his plans.
- They told the police about it.
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- I don't know anything about it.<sup>xiii</sup>

# Using “In”

## Using “In”

**Used for unspecified times during a day, month, season, year:**

She always reads newspapers in the morning.

In the summer, we have a rainy season for three weeks.

The new semester will start in March.

**Used to indicate a location or place:**

She looked me directly in the eyes.

I am currently staying in a hotel.

**Used to indicate a shape, colour, or size:**

This painting is mostly in blue.

The students stood in a circle.

This jacket comes in four different sizes