

Preparatory English 1

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Learning Unit 2:

DESCRIBING PEOPLE



What are we going to learn today?

- Describing physical appearance
- Describing personality
- Grammar- adjectives of comparison and order of adjectives



Discussion:

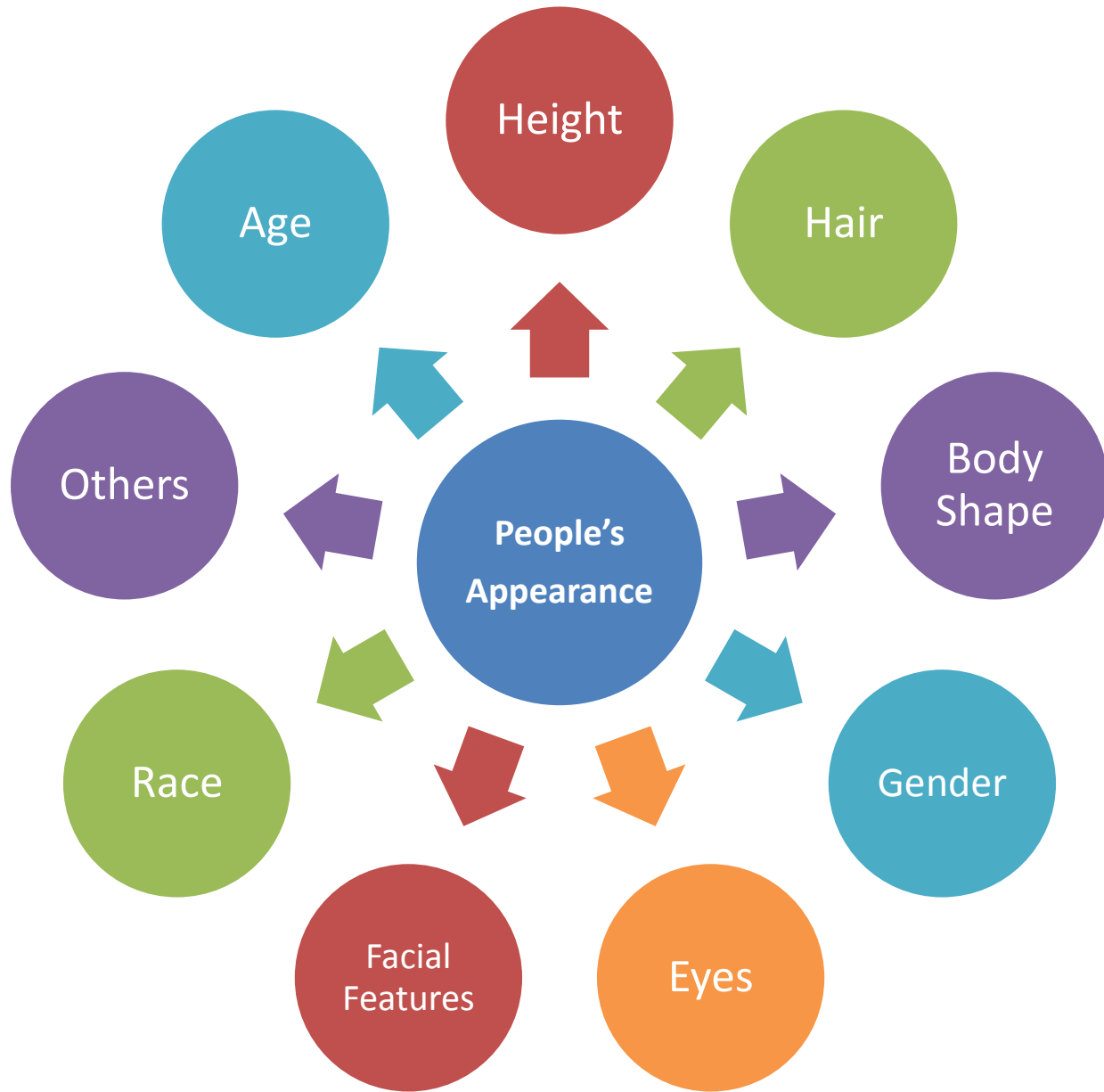
- What are the words you use to describe people?
- When do you describe people?
- What are the words that you should not use to describe people?



Describing people: Physical Appearance

- To give a description of a person, one needs to understand the vocabulary to use, what details are important, and the order in which to give the details.
- When we describe people, we normally describe their physical appearances and personalities. Some words to describe people might be offensive, so you better be careful!





Height	
Short	
Tall	
average	
Body shape	
Petite/ small	
Slender (thin)	
Average build	
heavy (overweight, fat)	
Facial features	
pretty/ beautiful, handsome/ good-looking, Ugly/ plain	freckles, freckled mole scar, scarred bruise, bruised birthmark
Race	
Asian	Iban
Black (African-American)	Bidayuh
Malay	Kenyah
Chinese	white (caucasian)
Indian – not “tambi”	Indonesians
	Bangladeshis
	Punjabi and Sikh

Examples:

1. Aini is tall.
2. She is slim.
3. She is pretty with a birthmark on her left arm.
4. She is Iban from Sibiu.



Hair
<p>Length: long, medium, short</p> <p>Colour: dark, light, black, brunette (brown), blonde (fair), red, grey, white</p> <p>Style: straight, curly, short, pulled back (ponytail, braid, bun)</p> <p>no hair: bald, partly bald, has a receding hairline</p>
Eyes
<p>Colour: black, brown, blue, green, grey, hazel</p> <p>Size: big, beady (small), narrow (close-set), wide-set</p>
Age
<p>child (baby, infant, toddler)</p> <p>young adolescent (teenager)</p> <p>adult (young adult, middle-aged)</p> <p>old (older, senior, senior citizen, elderly)</p>
Others
<p>glasses</p> <p>tattoo</p> <p>braces on teeth</p> <p>earrings</p> <p>wheelchair, crutches</p>

Examples:

1. Aini has long black hair.
2. She has big dark eyes.
3. She is a 19 year-old teenager.
4. She wears glasses.

How would you describe him?



a. Joshua is

_____.

b. He has

_____.

c. He wears

_____.

Describing people: Personalities

- Generous
- Well-educated
- Greedy
- Well-traveled
- Warmhearted
- Impatient
- Stingy
- Lazy
- Hardworking
- Moody
- Outgoing
- Shy
- Kind
- Easygoing
- Ignorant
- Mean
- Stubborn
- Thoughtful
- Reliable
- Unreliable
- Affectionate
- Honest
- Deceitful
- Arrogant
- Ambitious
- Intelligent
- Obnoxious



Describing people: Personalities

- Look at the list of personality traits in the previous slide. Can you decide which traits are good or bad?
- Then, answer the following questions:
 - Which of these traits describe you?
 - Which of these traits describe your friend?



Some words you can use to replace inappropriate words.

	Inappropriate	Appropriate
1.	All doctors can bring their wives to the party.	
2.	The student did not do very well in Mathematics though he is a Chinese.	
3.	The old lecturer did not have her UNIMAS vehicle pass on her car.	
4.	All deaf students are placed in a class with special facilities to help them learn.	



Some words you can use to replace inappropriate words.

	Inappropriate	Appropriate
1	All doctors can bring their <u>wives</u> to the party.	spouses/ partners
2	The student did not do very well in Mathematics <u>though he is a Chinese.</u>	The student did not do well in Mathematics.
3	The <u>old lecturer</u> did not have her UNIMAS vehicle pass on her car.	The (senior) lecturer
4	All <u>deaf students</u> are placed in a class with special facilities to help them learn.	Students with hearing problem



Grammar: Adjectives of Comparison

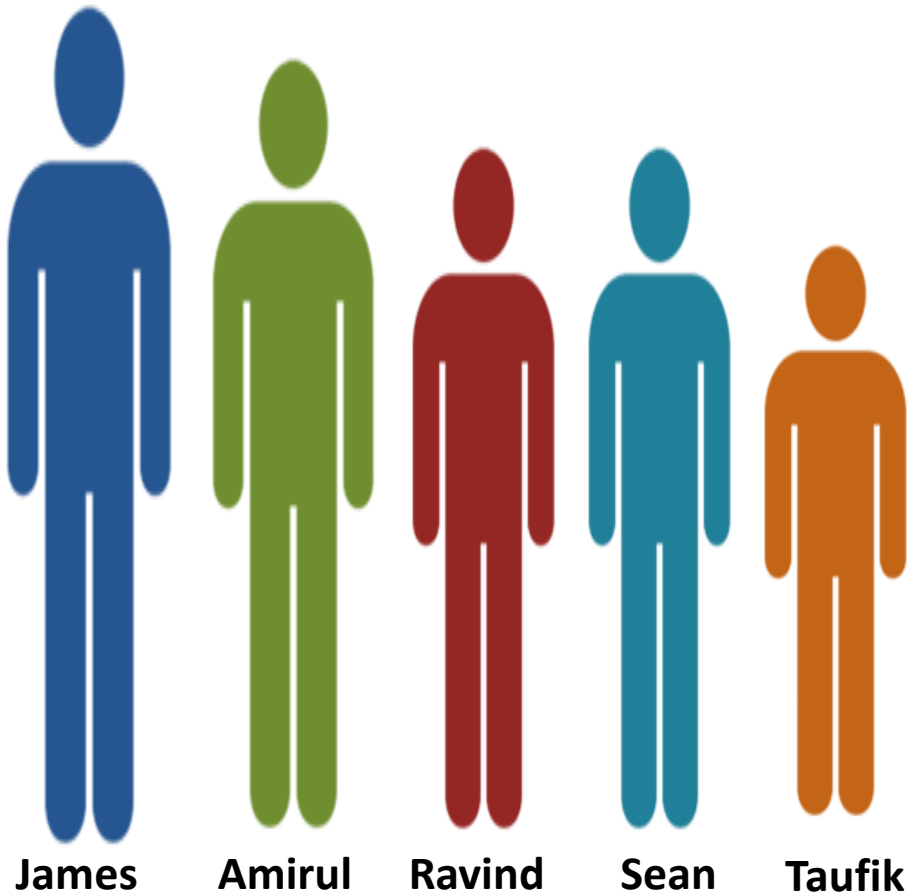
- Adjectives of comparison are used to compare things/persons/objects.
- They are divided into two forms: comparative and superlative.
- The comparative (-er or more) is used to compare two nouns and it usually has the word “than” following it. The superlative (-est or the most) can be used to compare more than two nouns, and it usually has the word “the” before it.



Grammar: Adjectives of Comparison

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
poor	...poorer than...	...the poorest...
good	...better than...	...the best...
expensive	...more expensive than...	...the most expensive...
intelligent	...more intelligent than	...the most intelligent...

Grammar: Adjectives of Comparison



We can say that,

- a. James is the tallest.
- b. Amirul is taller than Ravind.
- c. Ravind is as tall as Sean.
- d. Sean is shorter than James.
- e. Taufik is the tallest.

Adjectives of Comparison

Exercise 1: Insert the correct form of the adjective in bold type to complete each sentence.

1. This is the _____ classroom in the school. **COLD**
2. James's story is _____ than Mark's. **INTERESTING**
3. Miss Agnes is the _____ of the two sisters. **SLIM**
4. King Solomon was the _____ king who ever reigned. **WISE**
5. Harry's results are _____ than Simon's. **BAD**



Adjectives of Comparison

Exercise 2: Complete the sentences with the Comparative or the Superlative

1. A car is _____ (expensive) than a bicycle.
2. New York is one of the _____ (large) city in the world.
3. An elephant is _____ (heavy) than a horse.
4. Spain is _____ (big) than England.
5. Helen was _____ (beautiful) student in class.



Answers

Exercise 1:

1. coldest
2. More interesting
3. slimmest
4. wisest
5. Worse

Exercise 2:

1. more expensive
2. largest
3. heavier
4. bigger
5. the most beautiful

