

Strong adjectives

Making your nouns more effective



An adjective is a describing word that can either come before a noun:
e.g. The children made an **astonishing** model.



Or it can come after a form of the word 'to be',
(is/am/are/was/were/be/been/being)
e.g. The children's model was **astonishing**.

Can you find the strong adjectives in these sentences?

The deafening music delighted the crowd.

Dancing to the impressive tunes, the fans were ecstatic.

The talented band entertained their enthusiastic fans for the entire concert.



Were you correct?

The **deafening** music delighted the crowd.

Dancing to the **impressive** tunes, the fans were **ecstatic**.

The **talented** band entertained their

enthusiastic fans for the **entire** concert.



Now, it is your turn to up-level the adjectives in the sentences that follow.

Light years away, the sad alien discovered that his planet was in the middle of a universe.

Which words can you think of to replace 'sad'?



Here are some alternatives for 'sad'. Did you choose any of these or find others?

distressed glum forlorn weeping

melancholy dismal

heartbroken troubled



Now, it is your turn to up-level the adjectives in the sentences that follow.

As the book reached its dramatic conclusion, the reader was shocked.

Which words can you think of to replace 'shocked'?



Here are some alternatives for 'shocked'. Did you choose any of these or find others?

stunned flabbergasted

astonished shaken

outraged staggered

astounded taken aback dazed



A strong adjective choice can improve the effectiveness of your writing and can completely change the meaning for the reader.

My big sister is exceptional. (remarkable)

My big sister is reserved. (shy)

My big sister is atrocious. (shockingly bad)

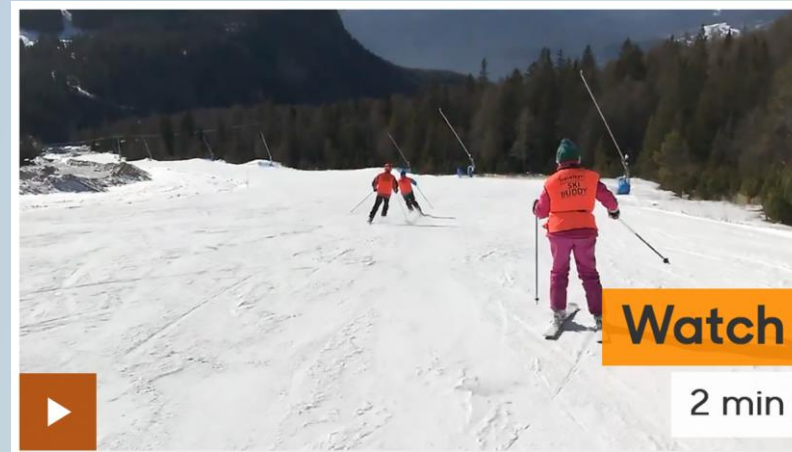
Fill in the blanks below to add interest to this piece of writing. You can use a thesaurus to help you to find the most effective words that you can.

At the end of their _____ performance, the band were _____. After months of touring, had they done enough to impress the _____ fans? They played a _____ note as the crowd gave them a _____ cheer!



Click on the link below to find out some more information about the role of adjectives in writing:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/z4hrt39/articles/zj33rwx>



Read chapter four of The Firebird e-book.

Your writing task

You are going to continue your persuasive writing. The wolf is sorry for eating Ivan's horse and you now need to write about how Ivan and Helena persuade him to change his ways.

Focus on using strong adjectives in addition to the powerful verbs and nouns that you learnt about this week.