

BASIC NORWEGIAN – SECTION 8 – ADJECTIVES

IN THIS CLASS WE WILL FOCUS ON THE FOLLOWING ELEMENTS:

- Adjectives both at A1 and A2 level.
- Adverbs

ADJECTIVES – A1 LEVEL

Just as in latin languages like french and spanish, you will have to conjugate the adjective based on the gender of the noun. Consider the table below:

Jeg har	En	Pen (<i>Pretty</i>) Dyr (<i>Expensive</i>) Varm (<i>Warm</i>) Kald (<i>Cold</i>) God (<i>Good</i>)	Bil (<i>Car</i>) Stol (<i>Chair</i>) Genser (<i>Sweater</i>) Dag (<i>Day</i>) Kopp (<i>Cup</i>)
	Ei/en	Ny (<i>New</i>) Blå (<i>Blue</i>) Gammel – Voksen (<i>Old – Adult</i>) Grønn (<i>Green</i>) Billig (<i>Cheap</i>) Rolig (<i>Calm</i>)	Skjorte (<i>Shirt</i>) Hylle (<i>Shelf</i>) Bok (<i>Book</i>) Flaske (<i>Bottle</i>) Jakke (<i>Jacket</i>)
Han kjøper	Et	Pent Dyr Varm Kald God	Bilde (<i>Picture</i>) Menneske (<i>Human</i>) Hus (<i>House</i>) Skap (<i>Closet</i>) Bord (<i>Table</i>) Lager (<i>Storage place</i>) Tak (<i>Roof</i>) Spill (<i>Game</i>)
Hun vil ha Hun ønsker		Nytt Blått Gammelt - Voksent Grønt Billig Rolig	
	Mange Noen Et par	Pene Dyre Varme Kalde Gode Nye Blå Gamle - Voksne Grønne Billige Rolige	Biler (<i>Cars</i>) Stoler (<i>Chairs</i>) Skjorter (<i>Shirts</i>) Hyller (<i>Shelves</i>) Bilder (<i>Pictures</i>) Mennesker (<i>Humans</i>)

The general rule is that (1) The base form of the adjective is used for nouns with both male and female nouns. (2) You add an –t for neutral nouns and (3) you add an –e for plural nouns. There are no exceptions to rule (1). Male and female nouns will always have the same form of the adjective. There are, however, many exceptions to rule (2) and (3). Particularly when we talk about colors. So when you use a color it is a good idea to check it in the dictionary. A few of the exceptions mentioned in the table above is:

Ny/Blå – With vowel with tonation at the end, one tend to have double tt. This is not very often this happens and as you see they have different ending in the plural form. So here you should just be aware of the exception in the neutral form.

Gammel/Voksen – When adjectives ends in –el or –en they will have a special form in plural where they will get –le and –ne instead of the –ele and –ene you would have gotten if you just added an –e.

Grønn – When an adjective ends in a double consonant, particularly double –nn. One of the consonants will be removed.

Billig/rolig - There are no –t (in neutral) after the ending –lig.

Beyond these there are many adjectives that are exeptions. However, if you remember the –t in neutral and –e in plural you will have learnt what you should learn at this level. Just remember the exeptions as you go along in learning individual adjectives.

ADVERBS

Adjectives describes an object. Adverbs can describe an action. When we describe an action in this manner the ending will be as in neutral –t.

Han er langsam (*He is slow – adjective*)

Han kjører langsomt (*He drives slowly –adverb*)

Han er god (*He is good*)

Kaffen smaker godt (*The coffee tastes good*)

ADJECTIVES – A2 LEVEL

If you master the elements we have gone through so far, then you know what should be known at the A1 level regarding adjectives. Since there is not so much more to know about adjectives I will include the rest here also.

There are 2 elements I will include here – (1) Adjectives in definite form and (2) Comparative and superlative of adjectives.

(1) Adjectives in definite form

In the singular form of the adjective there is a definite form when the adjective is the element that defines which object you are talking about. To create the definite form you only add an –e to the adjective (with very few exceptions). It occurs in 2 forms:

A) Pronoun + Definite adjective + Noun in definite form

Whenever using this form (*The/that + adjective + noun*) you will have to use the definite form in Norwegian. See the examples below.

Den gule <u>bilen</u>	(<i>The/that yellow car</i>)	Hankjønn definite
Den hvite <u>flaska</u>	(<i>The/that white bottle</i>)	Hunkjønn definite
Det nye <u>huset</u>	(<i>The/that new house</i>)	Intetkjønn definite
De pene jentene	(<i>The/those pretty girls</i>)	Plural

B) Possessive pronoun or Genitive + Definite adjective + Noun in indefinite form

To make it a bit more confusing. When you use the form above, you also have to use the definite form of the adjective. However, then you will use the indefinite form of the noun. In other words, in both cases, (A) and (B), you use the same form of the noun as you would if the adjective was not present.

Olas gule bil	(<i>Ola's yellow car</i>)	Hankjønn definite
Min nye flaske	(<i>My new bottle</i>)	Hunkjønn definite
Hennes røde hus	(<i>Her red house</i>)	Intetkjønn definite
Dine gamle katter	(<i>Your old cats</i>)	Plural

Note – There are no definite plural form. The plural form – de nye bilene /mine nye biler – is just regular plural form. This we see when we look at one of the few adjectives that are irregular in definite form – the norwegian word for small/little.

En liten bil	(A small car) – Hankjønn indefinite
Ei liten/lita flaske	(A small bottle) - Hunkjønn indefinite
Et lite hus	(A small house) – Neutral indefinite
5 små biler	(5 small cars) – Plural indefinite

Det lille huset	(The/that small house) – Singular definite
De små bilene	(The/those small cars) – Plural definite = Plural indefinite

(2) Comparative and Superlative

This is a rather big element and deep in A2 level. Do not start with this part before you feel very familiar with other elements regarding adjectives.

To compare two elements in Norwegian you follow the same structure as in English. Pay particular attention to the words "som" and "enn".

Din bil er dyrere enn min Your car is more expensive than mine

Ole er mer glad i sjokolade enn i kake Ole is more fond of chocolate than cake

Din bil er like dyr som min

Your car is as expensive as mine

So when you create comparative phrases you will use the comparative form and "enn" if you are comparing two elements and they are not of equal value. If you use the "(not) as ADJECTIVE as" form you use the word "som".

Also the superlative form take the same structure as in English.

Han er høyest

He is the tallest

Den gule bilen er dyrest

The yellow car is the most expensive

To create the comparative and superlative form of the adjective:

Add -ere to the adjective to create the comparative. To create the superlative you add -est. Adjective ending in -som and -lig, will get -st in superlative instead of -est. E.g. langsam – langsommere – langsamst (slow – slower – slowest). As in English you also use «mer» (more) and «mest» (most)

Examples of regular adjectives:

Dyr – dyrere – dyrest

(Expensive – more expensive – most expensive)

Pen – penere – penest

(Pretty – prettier – prettiest)

Treg – tregere – tregest

(Slow – slower – slowest)

Ny – nyere – nyest

(New – newer – newest)

Some irregular adjectives and «mye» «mange»

Liten – mindre – minst

(Small – smaller – smallest)

Stor – større – størst

(Big – bigger – biggest)

God – bedre – best

(Good – better – best)

Gammel – eldre – eldst

(Old – older – oldest)

Mye – mer – mest

(Much – more – most) – uncountable **

Mange – flere – flest

(Many – more – most) – countable **

** Note that the conjugation here is different between these words

A TEXT AND VOCABULARY

Erik skal til kjøpesenteret for å kjøpe fersk mat og nye klær. Han går først til frukt handleren. Der kjøper han store grønne epler, lokale poteter som er dyrket lokalt. Dessuten kjøper han ferske jordbær. Det er dyrt å kjøpe frukt og grønnsaker i Norge.

Etter han kjøper frukt, går han i butikken og kjøper klær. Han ser etter noen billige gensere og varme jakker for vinteren. Han finner noen pene gensere, men de er veldig dyre. Han finner en genser som er billigere enn de andre. Han kjøper den.

Han bruker lang tid på å se etter en jakke som han liker. Etter han ser i alle vinduene, bestemmer han seg for å ikke kjøpe en ny jakke. Han har flere gamle jakker hjemme som fortsatt er gode nok. Han kan bruke noen av dem i ett år til.

Han kjører den lange veien hjem og er glad når han er hjemme 30 minutter senere.

Et kjøpesenter = a shopping center

Fersk ferskt ferske *adj.* = fresh

En frukt = a fruit

Grønn grønt grønne *adj.* = green

Lokal lokalt lokale *adj.* = Local

Dyr – dyrt – dyre *adj.* = expensive

En grønnsak = a vegetable

Klær = clothes (plural)

Billig – billigere – billigst *adj.* = cheap

Varm – varmt – varmere *adj.* = warm

Pen – pent – pene *adj.* = pretty

lang – langt – lange *adj.* = Long

gammel – gammelt – gamle = old

God – godt – gode *adj.* = good

Senere = later