

## Gradable and extreme adjectives guessing game with modals of deduction

### Warmer – discuss and agree

Choose one of the categories below, ask “How... is...?” about one example of that thing (e.g. “How small is Tom Cruise?” for famous people), and see if you agree with your partner. You can use the suggested adjectives there or any other suitable adjectives.

#### Useful words for ranking

- absolutely/ completely/ totally
- extremely/ incredibly
- very/ really
- fairly/ quite
- not very/ not so/ a little
- not at all

#### Useful phrases for agreeing and disagreeing/ ranking

“That just what I would say.”

“I would go even further and say that it is...”

“I wouldn’t go so far. I’d say that...”

Ask about any adjectives which you are not sure how to use.

### Guessing game

Choose a category and an example and say the category but not the example, e.g. “job”, but not that you chose “dentist” to talk about. Give hints describing that job with adverb plus adjective like “It’s fairly unpleasant” until your partner guesses what you are talking about with “It must be...” (because there is only one possibility that matches everything that you have said). They can only guess once per hint, and they should increase their level of certainty as they get more hints.

#### Useful phrases for guessing

“It can’t be...”

“It could possibly be.../ “It’s probably not...”

“It may be.../ “It might be...”

“It may well be.../ “It might well be...”

“It’s probably...”

“It’s almost certainly...”

“It must be...”

#### Useful responses to guesses

“Yes, it could be that. Also,.../ “Yes, it could be that, but...”

“No, it can’t be that because...”

“Yes, it must be that because... And it is that”

### **Suggested topics and gradable and extreme adjectives**

Animal – cute/ adorable, ugly/ hideous, frightening/ terrifying, yucky/ revolting, small/ tiny, big/ enormous,

Artwork – expensive/ priceless, valuable/ priceless, big/ huge, small/ tiny, good/ fantastic, clever/ genius, different/ unique,

Famous person – handsome/ stunning, pretty/ gorgeous, small/ tiny, nasty/ horrible, admired/ idolised, interesting/ captivating, energetic/ hyper, funny/ hilarious, good at.../ excellent at..., nice/ lovely, rich/ filthy rich, special/ exceptional

Festival/ Celebration/ Ceremony – expensive/ exorbitant, old/ ancient, new/ brand new, long/ endless

Food and drink – unhealthy/ lethal, makes you full/ makes you stuffed, oily/ dripping in oil, sweet/ tooth rotting, easy to cook/ a cinch to cook, hard/ like a rock, difficult to cook/ impossible to cook, yucky/ revolting, tasty/ delicious

Hobby/ Free-time activity – interesting/ fascinating, exciting/ thrilling, pricey/ extortionate, cheap/ free,

Job – tiring/ exhausting, stressful/ panic-inducing, dirty/ filthy, unpleasant/ horrible, good/ wonderful, interesting/ fascinating, busy/ rushed off your feet, challenging/ impossible

Language – tricky to learn/ impossible to learn, important/ essential, beautiful/ gorgeous, ugly/ hideous

Movie – sad/ tragic, funny/ hilarious, exciting/ gripping, good/ wonderful, bad/ awful, confusing/ mind-boggling, scary/ terrifying, memorable/ unforgettable, long/ endless, moving/ heart-wrenching, silly/ idiotic, surprising/ astonishing

Music – sad/ heart-breaking, loud/ ear-splitting,

News story – important/ crucial, worrying/ panic-inducing, sad/ tragic,

Place – difficult to get to/ impossible to get to, beautiful/ stunning, crowded/ packed, dirty/ filthy, hot/ boiling, cold/ freezing, impressive/ awe inspiring, memorable/ unforgettable, noisy/ ear-splitting, old/ ancient, nice/ delightful, poor/ poverty-stricken

School subjects/ Exams – tough/ impossible, confusing/ mind-boggling, boring/ mind-numbing, interesting/ fascinating,

Sport/ Exercise – boring/ mind-numbing, hard/ impossible, useful/ vital, expensive/ exorbitant, painful/ excruciating

**Gradable and extreme adjectives presentation**

*Write pairs of gradable and extreme adjectives next to each other in the left and right bottom squares and write suitable adverbs to go with each kind of adjective in the boxes above them. One adverb can go in both columns. If adjectives or adverbs have the same meaning, put them next to each other in the same box.*

<b>Gradable</b>	<b>Extreme</b>
<b>Adverbs with gradable adjectives</b>	<b>Adverbs with extreme adjectives</b>
<b>Gradable adjectives</b>	<b>Extreme adjectives (of each gradable adjective on the left)</b>

Use this mixed list to help add at least 10 more pairs to the task above.

a cinch	admired	adorable	ancient
astonishing	awe inspiring	awful	bad
beautiful	big	boiling	boring
brand new	busy	captivating	challenging
cheap	clever	cold	confusing
crowded	crucial	cute	delicious
delightful	different	difficult	dirty
dripping in oil	ear-splitting	easy	essential
endless	energetic	enormous	excruciating
excellent	exceptional	exciting	extortionate
exhausting	exorbitant	expensive	filthy rich
fantastic	fascinating	filthy	full
free	freezing	frightening	gorgeous
funny	genius	good	heart-breaking
gripping	handsome	hard	horrible
heart-wrenching	hideous	hilarious	idiotic
hot	huge	hyper	impressive
idolised	important	impossible	long
interesting	lethal	like a rock	mind-boggling
loud	lovely	memorable	new
mind-numbing	moving	nasty	old
nice	noisy	oily	poor
packed	painful	panic-inducing	pricey
poverty-stricken	pretty	priceless	rushed off your feet
revolting	rich	rushed off your feet	sad
scary	silly	small	special
stressful	stuffed	stunning	surprising
sweet	tasty	terrifying	thrilling
tiny	tiring	tooth rotting	tough
tragic	tricky	ugly	unforgettable
unhealthy	unique	unpleasant	useful
valuable	vital	wonderful	worrying
yucky			

Use the paired phrases below to help.

*Circle the extreme adjective(s) in each group below. There is at least one in each group. If you aren't sure, think about which ones mean "very" + one of the other adjectives.*

admired/ idolized	adorable/ cute
ancient/ old	astonishing/ surprising
awe inspiring/ impressive	awful/ bad
beautiful/ gorgeous/ handsome/ pretty/ stunning	
big/ enormous/ huge	boiling/ hot
boring/ mind-numbing	brand new/ new
busy/ rushed off your feet	captivating/ fascinating/ interesting
challenging/ difficult/ hard/ impossible/ tough/ tricky	
cheap/ free	clever/ genius
cold/ freezing	confusing/ mind-boggling
crowded/ packed	crucial/ essential/ important
delicious/ tasty	delightful/ lovely/ nice
different/ unique	dirty/ filthy
ear-splitting/ loud/ noisy	endless/ long
energetic/ hyper	excellent/ fantastic/ good/ wonderful
exceptional/ special	exciting/ gripping/ thrilling
excruciating/ painful	exhausting/ tiring
exorbitant/ expensive/ extortionate/ pricey	
filthy rich/ rich	frightening/ scary/ terrifying
full/ stuffed	funny/ hilarious
heart-breaking/ sad/ tragic	heart-wrenching/ moving
hideous/ ugly	horrible/ nasty/ unpleasant
idiotic/ silly	lethal/ unhealthy
memorable/ unforgettable	panic-inducing/ stressful/ worrying
poor/ poverty-stricken	priceless/ valuable
revolting/ yucky	small/ tiny
useful/ vital	

*Check above, then test each other:*

- Read out one group for your partner to identify the extreme adjective from
- Read out a gradable adjective for your partner to say at least one extreme version of
- Read out an extreme adjective for your partner to say at least one gradable version of

*Rank these expressions by certainty, with ones with the same certainty next to each other.*

- "It can't be..."
- "It could possibly be..."
- "It may be..."
- "It may well be..."
- "It might be..."
- "It might well be..."
- "It must be..."
- "It's almost certainly..."
- "It's probably not..."
- "It's probably..."