

Opinions with gradable and extreme adjectives

Try to make statements using adjectives below that your partner agrees with. If possible, try to use more than one word, also agreeing on the adverbs and/ or making statements with pairs of both gradable and extreme adjectives, e.g. both agreeing that one thing is “absolutely awful” and that a different thing is “fairly bad”.

Possible topics

- Tourist spots
- Movies
- TV series
- (Visual) arts
- Museums
- Dining spots
- Nightlife spots
- Shops
- Food and drink
- Technology
- Brands
- Accommodation (e.g. hotel)
- Transport (e.g. airline)
- Books

<p>I think/ In my opinion/ I'd say that To be frank/ Frankly I really think that</p>
<p>B&Bs Bangkok black coffee business meetings durian exams German gin horror movies Italy jogging learning Chinese London maths murder mysteries roller coasters Skype snails teleconferences thatched cottages The Mona Lisa</p>
<p>is are</p>

Adverbs with gradable adjectives (a little)/ (slightly) extremely fairly incredibly (not very) really very	Adverbs with extreme adjectives absolutely completely really totally utterly
gradable adjectives	extreme adjectives (= very/ extremely + gradable adjectives)
amusing/ funny	hilarious/ side-splitting
annoying/ irritating	infuriating
attractive/ good looking/ pretty	gorgeous/ stunning
bad	awful/ dreadful/ disastrous/ terrible
good	great/ brilliant/ fantastic/ fabulous/ terrific
boring	mind-numbing/ stupefying
interesting	captivating/ fascinating/ spellbinding
exciting	gripping/ thrilling
crowded	packed/ cram-packed
challenging/ difficult/ hard/ tricky	impossible
dirty	filthy
confusing	mind-boggling/ mystifying
cold	freezing
different/ distinctive	unique
expensive/ pricey	exorbitant
frightening/ scary	terrifying/ petrifying
hot	baking/ boiling/ roasting
important/ necessary	crucial/ essential/ vital
impressive	awe inspiring
loud/ noisy	ear-splitting
memorable	unforgettable
moving	heart-wrenching
nice/ pleasant	charming/ lovely/ delightful
painful	excruciating
silly	idiotic/ ridiculous
special	exceptional
surprising	amazing/ astonishing/ unbelievable
tasty	delicious/ mouth-watering/ lip-smacking
tiring	exhausting
ugly	hideous
unpleasant/ yucky	repulsive/ revolting/ sickening
unsuccessful	disastrous

Share one sentence you agreed on and see if other groups agree. Then ask about anything in the table above that you couldn't understand or couldn't use, working together as a class to make suitable statements each time.

Mixed gradable and extreme adjectives

amazing/ astonishing/ unbelievable
amusing/ funny
annoying/ irritating
attractive/ good looking/ pretty
awe inspiring
awful/ dreadful/ disastrous/ terrible
bad
baking/ boiling/ roasting
boring
captivating/ fascinating/ spellbinding
challenging/ difficult/ hard/ tricky
charming/ lovely/ delightful
cold
confusing
crowded
crucial/ essential/ vital
delicious/ mouth-watering/ lip-smacking
different/ distinctive
dirty
disastrous
ear-splitting
exceptional
exciting
excruciating
exhausting
exorbitant
expensive/ pricey
filthy
freezing
frightening/ scary
good
gorgeous/ stunning
great/ brilliant/ fantastic/ fabulous/ terrific
gripping/ thrilling
heart-wrenching
hideous
hilarious/ side-splitting
hot
idiotic/ ridiculous
important/ necessary
impossible
impressive
infuriating
interesting
loud/ noisy
memorable

mind-boggling/ mystifying
mind-numbing/ stupefying
moving
nice/ pleasant
packed/ cram-packed
painful
repulsive/ revolting/ sickening
silly
special
surprising
tasty
terrifying/ petrifying
tiring
ugly
unforgettable
unique
unpleasant/ yucky
unsuccessful

Adverbs to go with gradable and extreme adjectives

One can be used twice.

- a little
- absolutely
- completely
- extremely
- fairly
- incredibly
- not very
- really
- slightly
- totally
- utterly
- very



Gradable adjectives

Make sure that you have these words in the left-hand column above, and then match the other words above to them.

amusing/ funny

annoying/ irritating

attractive/ good looking/ pretty

bad

good

boring

interesting

exciting

crowded

challenging/ difficult/ hard/ tricky

dirty

confusing

cold

different/ distinctive

expensive/ pricey

frightening/ scary

hot

important/ necessary

impressive

loud/ noisy

memorable

moving

nice/ pleasant

painful

silly

special

surprising

tasty

tiring

ugly

unpleasant/ yucky

unsuccessful

Extreme adjectives

amazing/ astonishing/ unbelievable
awe inspiring
awful/ dreadful/ disastrous/ terrible
baking/ boiling/ roasting
captivating/ fascinating/ spellbinding
charming/ lovely/ delightful
crucial/ essential/ vital
delicious/ mouth-watering/ lip-smacking
disastrous
ear-splitting
exceptional
excruciating
exhausting
exorbitant
filthy
freezing
gorgeous/ stunning
great/ brilliant/ fantastic/ fabulous/ terrific
gripping/ thrilling
heart-wrenching
hideous
hilarious/ side-splitting
idiotic/ ridiculous
impossible
infuriating
mind-boggling/ mystifying
mind-numbing/ stupefying
packed/ cram-packed
repulsive/ revolting/ sickening
terrifying/ petrifying
unforgettable
unique

Check your answers. Other answers are possible, so check anything else you wrote.

Why are some of the adverbs in brackets? How are they similar to and different from each other? Which kinds of adjectives do they go with?

Test each other on the vocabulary:

- Read out a pair and see if your partner can say which one means “extremely” + the other one
- Read out a gradable adjective and help your partner make the extreme version
- Read out an extreme adjective and help your partner make the gradable version
- Read out an adjective and see if your partner can identify which kind it is and then make the other version
- Help your partner brainstorm as many extreme adjectives as they can