

2. Adjectives belong to nouns, but they do not always *precede* the nouns to which they belong.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. The flowers are *beautiful*.
2. The sky is *blue*.

"Beautiful" and "blue" are just as much adjectives in these sentences as they are in the first sentences, and they belong to exactly the same nouns. In both cases "beautiful" describes "flowers," and "blue" describes "sky." But in the last sentences they are in the *predicate*.

3. An adjective *always* either accompanies the noun it describes, or else it is in the predicate after the verb *be*. In the latter case the noun it describes is the *subject* of the sentence. Thus, in the sentence "The flowers are beautiful," the subject is "flowers," and it is described by the adjective "beautiful." Such an adjective is called a *predicate adjective*.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

1. In summer the days are *long*.

Here "long" is the predicate adjective, and limits "days."

2. The Captain was *brave, prudent, and wise*.

"Brave," "prudent," and "wise," are predicate adjectives limiting "Captain."

4. Predicate adjectives are punctuated in the same way as adjectives that precede nouns.

Exercise 14.

1. Make a sentence telling three qualities of the ocean—expressing the qualities by *predicate adjectives*.