COMPOUND ADJECTIVES WITH NUMBERS

A Long Weekend in New York

Last summer, I went to New York with two friends. We had **a four-day trip** and stayed in a **three-star hotel** near Times Square. Our hotel room was quite small, but it had a **large-screen TV** and a **twenty-four-hour reception**.

On our first day, we took **a two-hour walking tour** around Manhattan. It was a **well-organized tour**, and our guide showed us many interesting places. We also visited a **five-story museum** and spent almost three hours there.

On the third day, we took a **one-hour train ride** to Brooklyn. We had lunch at a restaurant that offered **fifteen-dollar meals.** It was a great experience, and although the trip was tiring, it was definitely **a once-in-a-lifetime experience!**

GRAMMAR: COMPOUND ADJECTIVES WITH NUMBERS

A compound adjective is made of two or more words that work together to describe a noun.

NUMBER + HYPHEN + SINGULAR NOUN

Examples:
- a three-day trip
- a two-hour flight
- a five-minute break
- a ten-page report

Important: The noun in the compound adjective is always singular.

✗ a three-days trip
✓ a three-day trip

✗ a two-hours class
✓ a two-hour class

1. NUMBER + TIME WORD

We commonly use compound adjectives to describe duration.

- a two-hour meeting
- a three-day vacation
- a five-minute break

LIVEWORKSHEETS

• a six-month course
• a ten-year contract

Compare:
The meeting lasted two hours.
It was a two-hour meeting.

In the first sentence, hours is a normal plural noun. In the second, two-hour is a compound adjective, so hour is singular.

2. NUMBERS + OTHER NOUNS

Compound adjectives with numbers can describe many different things.

Distance: a 100-kilometer journey / a 50-mile race
Age: a ten-year-old boy / a six-year-old building
Pages: a twenty-page report
Floors: a fifteen-story building
Money: a twenty-dollar meal / a five-dollar ticket

3. USE HYPHENS

Use hyphens to connect the words in a compound adjective.

• a three-hour flight
• a ten-page essay
• a twenty-dollar ticket
• a six-month course

4. COMPOUND ADJECTIVES WITH AGE

When describing someone's age, use:

number + year + old

• a ten-year-old child
• a twenty-five-year-old student
• a sixty-year-old man

Notice that year is singular.

✗ a twenty-five-years-old student
✓ a twenty-five-year-old student

LIVEWORKSHEETS

Exercise 1 – Choose the Correct Option

1. We went on a _____ vacation to Mexico.
a) seven-days b) seven-day c) seven-days-long

2. The students had a _____ exam.
a) two-hour b) two-hours c) two-hours-long

3. She lives in a _____ building.
a) twenty-story b) twenty-stories c) twenty-storys

4. We read a _____ report about climate change.
a) fifty-pages b) fifty-page c) fifty-pages-long

5. They bought a _____ ticket for the concert.
a) thirty-dollar b) thirty-dollars c) thirty-dollar's

Exercise 2 – Complete the Compound Adjectives

Write the words correctly. Remember to use hyphens.

1. We stayed in a _____ hotel. (five / star)

2. I had a _____ break at work. (fifteen / minute)

3. They went on a _____ trip around Europe. (two / month)

4. She lives in a _____ apartment building. (ten / story)

5. He bought a _____ jacket. (one hundred / dollar)

Exercise 3 – Correct the Mistakes

Each sentence contains one mistake. Rewrite it correctly.

1. We had a three-days vacation.
_____

2. It was a two-hours flight.
_____

3. She lives in a twenty-stories building.
_____

4. He is a twenty-one-years-old student.
_____

LIVEWORKSHEETS