

## Fact vs Opinion Adjectives

*An activity of "Unusual suggestions for an Olympic mascot".*

Adjectives are words that we use to describe nouns. Nouns are names of things, people, or places. Adjectives can express either **facts** (information that is based on evidence) or **opinions** (what you think or feel about something). Let's look at an example:

EXAMPLE: The white cat is cute!



There are two adjectives in the sentence above:

- "white" is a fact.
- "cute" is an opinion. You may find the cat cute, but your friend may not.

In general, when you have a string of adjectives, it is more natural to put opinions before facts. This is why you would say, "That is a cute, white cat" and not "That is a white, cute cat".

### PART A

1. The following paragraph is adapted from "Unusual suggestions for an Olympic mascot" (Page 20, *What's Up* February 2023). Read it carefully. Then, underline all the adjectives. Next, decide which are facts and which are opinions. Write your answer below each adjective. The first one has been done for you as an example.

Velvet worms are extraordinary forest and woodland denizens. Australian velvet worms are often smaller than 5cm. Their waterproof, velvet-like skin is covered in tiny protrusions called papillae. Australian species have stumpy "legs", each with a claw that helps them move across uneven surfaces. Their colour varies between species, often blue, grey, purple or brown. Many of them display exquisite, detailed, and showy patterns that can include diamonds and stripes. Although velvet worms may be small and adorable, they are voracious predators. Despite their formidable abilities, velvet worms are vulnerable to habitat destruction.

## PART B

1. Read the sections on Jalbil, Itjaritjari, and Kakarratul in the story “Unusual suggestions for an Olympic mascot”. Find 10 adjectives and identify if each is fact or opinion. Write them in the table below.

Adjective	Source (from which story)	Fact or Opinion?
a)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
b)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
c)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
d)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
e)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
f)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
g)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
h)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
i)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion
j)		<input type="checkbox"/> fact <input type="checkbox"/> opinion

2. Share your answers with your partner. Does your partner agree with your answers?
- If yes, give yourself a pat on the back!
  - If not, discuss why.

TO THINK ABOUT: Can some adjectives be both fact and opinion?