Lesson 5: Predicate Adjectives

You already know how to diagram an adjective that comes before the noun it modifies; such an adjective is called an attributive adjective. An adjective that follows a linking verb like be or become and modifies the subject of the sentence is called a predicate adjective. The predicate adjectives in the following sentences are underlined: They are thirsty. The boys are becoming angry. She must be exhausted. Your parents will be proud. Like a predicate nominative, a predicate adjective is preceded in a sentence diagram by a backslash.



Besides be and become, verbs like feel, taste, smell, look, sound and get (when it means become) can also be followed by predicate adjectives. Here are examples: The food tastes good. I feel fine. They are getting tired.



Now it's your turn to diagram predicate adjectives.

1. The flowers smell wonderful.

4. The very steep hill was quite slippery.

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2. Are you getting sleepy?

5. Does the coffee taste too strong?

3. Your brother sounds very angry.

6. Are some frogs poisonous?

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