Adverbs with Adjectives

HSK 3 Grammar

Original teaching practice. Read one pattern, cover its model and try the questions before checking the separate answer section. Examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA) retain the course-reference provenance.

这么 / 那么 + Adjective (so ...)

It really is that hot

- You step outside in July and it is much hotter than you expected.
- **今天怎么这么热！** – "How come it is so hot today!" 这么 points to the degree you are feeling right now.

这么 / 那么 + Adjective

- **这么 + Adj** = "so ..." about something here and now; **那么 + Adj** = "so ..." about something over there, earlier or mentioned.
- Like 很, they stand directly before the adjective: 这么贵, 那么远.

这件衣服这么贵。
zhè jiàn yī fu zhè me guì
Word guide: 这 – this; 件 – (measure word); 衣服 – clothes; 这么 – so; 贵 – expensive.



Near and far

- Holding the shoes: **这双鞋这么便宜！** – "These shoes are so cheap!"
- Talking about a city you visited: **那儿的冬天那么冷，你怎么受得了？** – "The winters there are so cold; how do you stand it?"

你家那么远，每天怎么来？
nǐ jiā nà me yuǎn měi tiān zěn me lái
Word guide: 你 – you; 家 – home; 那么 – so; 远 – far; 每天 – every day; 怎么 – how; 来 – come.

■ Keep one degree word

- Do not add 很 as well: 这么热, not 这么很热, since 这么 already gives the degree.
- Place 这么 or 那么 before the adjective, not after it: 那么远, not 远那么.

■ Also in comparisons

- 那么 often sharpens a 没有 comparison: **我没有他那么高。** – "I am not as tall as him."
- 这么 can also go before a verb of degree: 你怎么这么喜欢吃辣的?

我没有他那么高。
wǒ méi yǒu tā nà me gāo
Word guide: 我 – I; 没有 – not as; 他 – him; 那么 – so; 高 – tall.

■ Recap

- **这么 / 那么 + Adjective** = "so …": 这么 for here and now, 那么 for there, then or what was mentioned.
- It replaces 很; it often comes with 怎么 (surprise) or 没有 (comparison).

Practise this pattern step by step.

A 跟 / 和 B 一样 (the same as)

■ Twins in the same class

- Two classmates are exactly the same height, and a new teacher keeps mixing them up.
- **哥哥跟弟弟一样高。** – "The older brother is as tall as the younger brother."

■ A 跟 / 和 B 一样 (+ Adjective)

- **A + 跟 / 和 + B + 一样** = "A is the same as B"; add an adjective to say in what way: 一样高, 一样忙.
- 跟 and 和 both work here; 跟 is a little more common in speech.

我的手机跟你的一样。
wǒ de shǒu jī gēn nǐ de yí yàng
Word guide: 我 – my; 手机 – phone; 跟 – and; 你 – yours; 一样 – the same.

A 跟 B 一样 + adjective: as ... as



The same as, but not the same

- Negate by putting 不 before 一样: **我的想法跟你的不一样。** – "My idea is different from yours."
- Ask with 吗 or 一样不一样: 北京的冬天跟上海的一样冷吗?

今天跟昨天一样冷。
jīn tiān gēn zuó tiān yí yàng lěng
Word guide: 今天 – today; 跟 – and; 昨天 – yesterday; 一样 – equally; 冷 – cold.

Where 不 and 很 go

- 不 goes before 一样: 跟他不一样, not 不跟他一样 for "different from him".
- No 很 before the adjective after 一样: 一样高, not 一样很高.

一样 versus 比

- 一样 says the two are equal; 比 says one is more: 哥哥比弟弟高 ("taller than").
- 一样 can also describe a noun with 的: 我们买了一样的衣服。– "We bought the same clothes."

我们买了一样的衣服。
wǒ men mǎi le yí yàng de yī fu
Word guide: 我们 – we; 买 – bought; 一样 – the same; 衣服 – clothes.

Recap

- **A 跟/和 B 一样 (+ Adj)** = A is (as Adj as) B. Negative: A 跟 B **不一样**.
- The adjective after 一样 stays bare; 一样的 + noun = the same thing.

Practise this pattern step by step.

又 ... 又 ... (both ... and ...)

A good buy

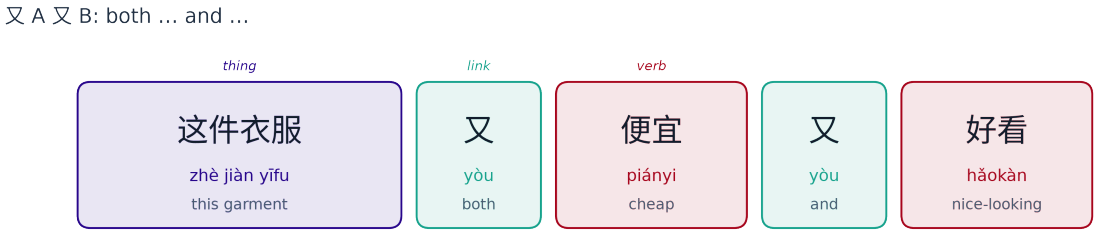
- You found a jacket that looks great and costs very little, and you want to say both at once.

- **这件衣服又便宜又好看。** – “This jacket is both cheap and good-looking.”

■ 又 + A + 又 + B

- **Subject + 又 + Adj/Verb + 又 + Adj/Verb**: each 又 sits directly before its own description.
- The two qualities point the same way, both good or both bad: 又快又好, 又累又饿.

我又累又饿。
wǒ yòu lèi yòu è
Word guide: 我 – I; 又 – both; 累 – tired; 又 – and; 饿 – hungry.



■ Actions as well as qualities

- Verb phrases fit too: **孩子们又唱又跳。** – “The children sang and danced.”
- Use it to describe a person or place with two clear features: 她的房间又大又干净。

孩子们又唱又跳。
hái zi men yòu chàng yòu tiào
Word guide: 孩子们 – the children; 又 – both; 唱 – sing; 又 – and; 跳 – dance.

■ Keep the two halves matched

- Use two qualities with the same direction: 又便宜又好看 is natural; 又便宜又难看 sounds odd unless you are joking.
- No 很 inside the pattern: 又高又大, not 又很高又很大.

■ 又 … 又 … versus 也 and 和

- 和 cannot join two adjectives in a predicate: say 又便宜又好看, not 便宜和好看.
- 又 … 又 … stresses that both features are present at the same time; 很便宜，也很好看 lists them one after another.

这儿的菜很便宜，也很好吃。
zhèr de cài hěn pián yi yě hěn hǎo chī
Word guide: 这儿 – here; 菜 – food; 很 – very; 便宜 – cheap; 也 – also; 很 – very; 好吃 – tasty.

Recap

- **又 A 又 B** = both A and B, at the same time. Each 又 goes before its own adjective or verb.
- Pick two qualities that point the same way, and leave out 很.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Subject + 比较 + Adjective (fairly, rather)

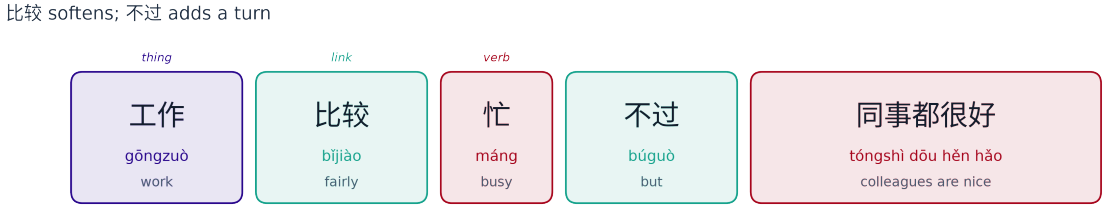
Not great, not terrible

- A friend asks how your new job is. It is fine, but you would not call it amazing.
- **工作比较忙，不过同事都很好。** – "The work is fairly busy, but my colleagues are all nice."

比较 + Adjective

- **Subject + 比较 + Adj** = "fairly, rather, relatively": 比较贵, 比较难, 比较远.
- Here 比较 is an adverb of degree, so it takes the place of 很; there is no second thing being compared.

这个问题比较难。
zhè ge wèn tí bǐ jiào nán
Word guide: 这 – this; 个 – (measure word); 问题 – question; 比较 – fairly; 难 – difficult.



A softer way to answer

- Answering "Is the restaurant far?": **比较远，我们打车吧。** – "It's rather far; let's take a taxi."
- 比较 also goes before some verbs of liking: **我比较喜欢喝茶。** – "I prefer tea (I like tea more)."

我比较喜欢喝茶。
wǒ bǐ jiào xǐ huan hē chá
Word guide: 我 – I; 比较 – rather; 喜欢 – like; 喝 – drinking; 茶 – tea.

■ Do not combine it with 比

- In a 比 comparison, 比较 cannot appear before the adjective: 他比我高, not 他比我比较高.
- Do not stack it with 很: 比较忙, not 很比较忙 or 比较很忙.

■ 比较 as a verb

- 比较 can also be a verb meaning "to compare": **我们比较一下这两个手机。** – "Let's compare these two phones."
- Tell them apart by position: before an adjective it means "fairly"; with an object it means "compare".

我们比较一下这两个手机。
wǒ men bǐ jiào yí xià zhè liǎng ge shǒu jī
Word guide: 我们 – we; 比较 – compare; 一下 – briefly; 这 – these; 两个 – two; 手机 – phones.

■ Recap

- **比较 + Adj** = fairly, rather; it replaces 很 and gives a moderate answer.
- It does not go inside an A 比 B sentence. With an object, 比较 is the verb "compare".

Practise this pattern step by step.

多 + Adjective + 啊! (how ...!)

■ The view from the top

- You reach the top of a mountain and the whole city lies below you.
- **这儿的风景多美啊!** – "How beautiful the view is here!"

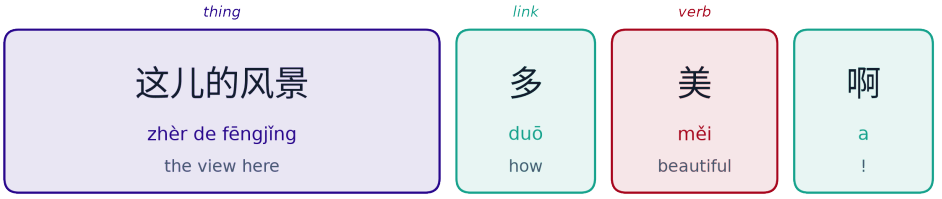
■ 多 + Adjective + 啊!

- **多 + Adj + 啊** is an exclamation: "How … !" 多 goes before the adjective and 啊 closes the sentence.
- The adjective stands alone: 多好啊, 多快啊, 多可爱啊.

你的女儿多可爱啊!
nǐ de nǚ ér duō kě ài a
Word guide: 你 – your; 女儿 – daughter; 多 – how; 可爱 – cute.

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多 + adjective + 啊: how ...!



Sharing a feeling

- Admiring: **你的中文说得多好啊！** – "How well you speak Chinese!"
- Complaining works too: **今天多热啊！** – "How hot it is today!"

今天多热啊！
jīn tiān duō rè a
Word guide: 今天 – today; 多 – how; 热 – hot.

Exclaim, do not ask

- No 很 inside: 多美啊, not 多很美啊; 多 already carries the degree.
- Keep 啊 and the exclamation mark. Without them, 多 + Adj often becomes a question: 多远? – "How far is it?"

多 ... 啊 versus 太 ... 了

- 太 + Adj + 了 also reacts strongly: 太美了！It is common and often means "too": 太贵了.
- 多 + Adj + 啊 is warmer and more admiring; it suits praise and wonder.

这件衣服太贵了！
zhè jiàn yī fu tài guì le
Word guide: 这 – this; 件 – (measure word); 衣服 – clothes; 太 – too; 贵 – expensive.

Recap

- **多 + Adj + 啊！** = How … ! An exclamation of admiration or strong feeling.
- Bare adjective, no 很; without 啊 and "！ ", 多 + Adj can be a question about amount.

Practise this pattern step by step.

Adjective + 的 + Noun (describing a noun)

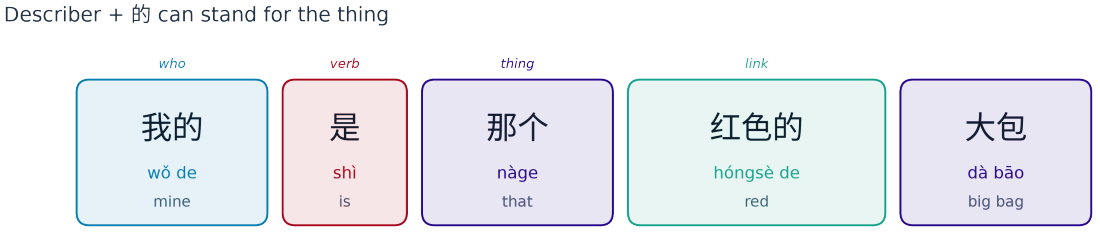
Which one is yours?

- At the station a lost-property officer asks which bag is yours. You need more than "a bag".
- **我的是那个红色的大包。** – "Mine is that big red bag."

Adjective + 的 + Noun

- **Adj + 的 + Noun**: the description comes first and 的 links it to the noun: 漂亮的花, 有意思的书.
- Two-syllable adjectives and adjectives with 很 usually need 的: 很好的朋友, 干净的房间.

她是一个很聪明的学生。
tā shì yí ge hěn cōng ming de xué sheng
Word guide: 她 – she; 是 – is; 一 – a; 个 – (measure word); 很 – very; 聪明 – clever; 学生 – student.



Short fixed pairs drop 的

- Many one-syllable adjectives join the noun directly: 好人, 新车, 大城市, 红茶.
- These pairs act like single words. Adding 的 makes the description more contrastive: 我要新的, 不要旧的.

北京是一个大城市。
Běi jīng shì yí ge dà chéng shì
Word guide: 北京 – Beijing; 是 – is; 一 – a; 个 – (measure word); 大 – big; 城市 – city.

When 的 is needed

- Keep 的 after 很 + Adj: 很好的朋友, not 很好朋友.
- The description goes before the noun, never after: 漂亮的衣服, not 衣服漂亮的 (that is a separate sentence pattern).

■ Leaving the noun out

- When the noun is clear, Adj + 的 can stand alone: **我喜欢红的。** – "I like the red one."
- This is common in shops and choices: 大的还是小的? – "The big one or the small one?"

你要大的还是小的?
nǐ yào dà de hái shi xiǎo de
Word guide: 你 – you; 要 – want; 大 – big; 还是 – or; 小 – small.

■ Recap

- **Adj + 的 + Noun** describes a noun; the description always comes first.
- 很 + Adj and most two-syllable adjectives need 的; common one-syllable pairs (好人, 新车) do not. Adj + 的 alone = "the … one".

Practise this pattern step by step.

Practice without the models

■ 这么 / 那么 + Adjective (so …)

0104.1 You are holding a heavy suitcase: 你的箱子怎么 …… 重?

0104.2 A friend describes her hometown far away. Which fits best? "The mountains there are so beautiful."

- A. 那儿的山这么很漂亮。
- B. 那儿的山很那么漂亮。
- C. 那儿的山漂亮那么。
- D. 那儿的山那么漂亮。

0104.3 Build: "I am not as tall as him."

Arrange all chunks: 我 / 他 / 没有 / 那么 / 高。

0104.4 这么很热 is correct because 这么 and 很 both mean "very".

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0104.5 You step outside in July and it is much hotter than you expected. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

■ A 跟 / 和 B 一样 (the same as)

0105.1 Complete: “This bag costs the same as that one.” 这个包跟那个包 …… 贵。

0105.2 Which says “My answer is different from yours.”?

- A. 我的答案跟你的没一样。
- B. 我的答案不跟你的一样。
- C. 我的答案跟你的一样不。
- D. 我的答案跟你的不一样。

0105.3 Build: “Today is as cold as yesterday.”

Arrange all chunks: 一样 / 今天 / 冷。 / 跟昨天

0105.4 哥哥跟弟弟一样高 means the older brother is taller.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0105.5 Two classmates are exactly the same height, and a new teacher keeps mixing them up. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

■ 又 ... 又 ... (both ... and ...)

0106.1 Complete: “The noodles here are both tasty and cheap.” 这儿的面条 …… 好吃 …… 便宜。(write the word that fills both blanks)

0106.2 Which sentence is natural?

- A. 他又高又帅。
- B. 他高和帅。
- C. 他又很高又很帅。
- D. 他又高帅。

0106.3 Build: “Her room is both big and clean.”

Arrange all chunks: 又大 / 又干净 / 她的房间 / 。

0106.4 这件衣服便宜和好看 is a correct way to say “This item of clothing is cheap and good-looking.”

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0106.5 You found a jacket that looks great and costs very little, and you want to say both at once. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

■ Subject + 比较 + Adjective (fairly, rather)

0107.1 A moderate answer: “Today is fairly cold.” 今天 …… 冷。

0107.2 Which sentence says “He is taller than me.”?

- A. 他比我高。
- B. 他比我比较高。
- C. 他很比我高。
- D. 他比较我高。

0107.3 Match each sentence to its meaning.

- 1. 这家饭馆比较贵。
- 1. 我们比较一下价格。
- 1. 我比较喜欢夏天。
- A. Let’s compare the prices.
- B. I prefer summer.
- C. This restaurant is rather expensive.

0107.4 Build: “It is rather far; let’s take a taxi.”

Arrange all chunks: 打车吧。 / 比较远 / ， / 我们

0107.5 A friend asks how your new job is. It is fine, but you would not call it amazing. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

■ 多 + Adjective + 啊! (how ...!)

0108.1 Exclaim: “How nice the weather is!” 天气 …… 好啊！

0108.2 Which one asks a question instead of exclaiming?

- A. 这个公园多大?
- B. 这个公园多漂亮啊！
- C. 这个公园多大啊！
- D. 这儿多安静啊！

0108.3 Build: “How well you speak Chinese!”

Arrange all chunks: 你的中文 / 说得 / 啊！ / 多好

0108.4 多很漂亮啊！ is correct.

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0108.5 You reach the top of a mountain and the whole city lies below you. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

■ Adjective + 的 + Noun (describing a noun)

0109.1 Complete: “He is a very good friend.” 他是我很好 …… 朋友。

0109.2 Which phrase is correct?

- A. 衣服漂亮的
- B. 漂亮很的衣服
- C. 很漂亮的衣服
- D. 很漂亮衣服

0109.3 In a shop, 我要红的 can mean “I want the red one.”

True or false? Explain or repair the statement.

0109.4 Build: “This is a very interesting book.”

Arrange all chunks: 很有意思的 / 书。/ 一本 / 这是

0109.5 At the station a lost-property officer asks which bag is yours. You need more than “a bag”. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson’s pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

Write or say your own response before reading the key.

Answers and explanations

■ 这么 / 那么 + Adjective (so ...)

0104.1 这么

The suitcase is right here, so 这么 + 重 = "so heavy".

0104.2 D. 那儿的山那么漂亮。

那么 + Adj, with no extra 很; 那么 suits a distant place.

0104.3 我没有他那么高。

A + 没有 + B + 那么 + Adj.

0104.4 False.

这么 already supplies the degree, so 很 is left out: 这么热.

0104.5 One possible response: 今天怎么这么热!

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Do not add 很 as well: 这么热, not 这么很热, since 这么 already gives the degree.
- Place 这么 or 那么 before the adjective, not after it: 那么远, not 远那么.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.

■ A 跟 / 和 B 一样 (the same as)

0105.1 一样

A 跟 B 一样 + Adj. 一样贵 = "equally expensive".

0105.2 D. 我的答案跟你的不一样。

不 is placed right before 一样.

0105.3 今天跟昨天一样冷。

A + 跟 B + 一样 + Adj.

0105.4 False.

一样高 means the same height. "Taller" needs 比: 哥哥比弟弟高.

0105.5 One possible response: 哥哥跟弟弟一样高。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- 不 goes before 一样: 跟他不一样, not 不跟他一样 for "different from him".
- No 很 before the adjective after 一样: 一样高, not 一样很高.

- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.

■ 又 … 又 … (both … and …)

0106.1 又

又好吃又便宜 – 又 before each quality.

0106.2 A. 他又高又帅。

又 + Adj + 又 + Adj with no 很. 和 does not join two adjectives in the predicate.

0106.3 她的房间又大又干净。

Subject + 又 A + 又 B.

0106.4 False.

和 joins nouns, not two adjectives used as the predicate. Use 又便宜又好看.

0106.5 One possible response: 这件衣服又便宜又好看。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Use two qualities with the same direction: 又便宜又好看 is natural; 又便宜又难看 sounds odd unless you are joking.
- No 很 inside the pattern: 又高又大, not 又很高又很大.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.

■ Subject + 比较 + Adjective (fairly, rather)

0107.1 比较

比较 + Adj = fairly cold.

0107.2 A. 他比我高。

A 比 B + Adj. The adverb 比较 does not go inside a 比 comparison.

0107.3 1–C: 这家饭馆比较贵。= This restaurant is rather expensive.; 2–A: 我们比较一下价格。= Let's compare the prices.; 3–B: 我比较喜欢夏天。= I prefer summer.

Before an adjective or a liking verb, 比较 means "rather"; with an object such as 价格 it is the verb "compare".

0107.4 比较远，我们打车吧。

比较 + Adj, then the suggestion.

0107.5 One possible response: 工作比较忙，不过同事都很好。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- In a 比 comparison, 比较 cannot appear before the adjective: 他比我高, not 他比我比较高.
- Do not stack it with 很: 比较忙, not 很比较忙 or 比较很忙.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.

■ 多 + Adjective + 啊! (how ...!)

0108.1 多

多 + Adj + 啊 = "How … !"

0108.2 A. 这个公园多大?

Without 啊 and the exclamation mark, 多大? asks "How big is it?"

0108.3 你的中文说得多好啊!

Verb + 得 + 多 + Adj + 啊.

0108.4 False.

多 already gives the degree, so the adjective stays bare: 多漂亮啊!

0108.5 One possible response: 这儿的风景多美啊!

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- No 很 inside: 多美啊, not 多很美啊; 多 already carries the degree.
- Keep 啊 and the exclamation mark. Without them, 多 + Adj often becomes a question: 多远? – "How far is it?"
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.

■ Adjective + 的 + Noun (describing a noun)

0109.1 的

很 + Adj needs 的 before the noun.

0109.2 C. 很漂亮的衣服

Description + 的 + noun, and 很 + Adj keeps 的.

0109.3 True.

When the noun is clear from context, Adj + 的 stands for "the … one".

0109.4 这是一本很有意思的书。

Number + measure word + description + 的 + noun.

0109.5 One possible response: 我的是那个红色的大包。

Check meaning and form:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Keep 的 after 很 + Adj: 很好的朋友, not 很好朋友.
- The description goes before the noun, never after: 漂亮的衣服, not 衣服漂亮的 (that is a separate sentence pattern).
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

This is supported productive practice. Compare meaning and structure; your answer need not copy the model. A partner or teacher must hear the spoken response to comment on pronunciation.