

Compound Adjectives in English

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Abstract

Compound adjectives characterize different types of formal structures and vast variety of combinations of two or more constituents. This feature of compound adjectives has made their cognition and application more complicated than it apparently seems. Nevertheless, they have not been competently and diffusely discussed in any grammar book. Since they are utilized in teaching and learning English very abundantly and actively, a more profound consideration and scrupulous investigation of them seem absolutely necessary.

The purpose of the study was first to make a distinction amongst the **simple** (single word), **complex** (derived) and **compound** (multiword) adjectives, and then to search for all types of structural combinations of compound adjectives in order to make generalizations among them, and finally to classify them into a few general patterns of structure for a pedagogical and comprehensive description.

As a result, 10 general structural patterns could be established out of all different structural diversities of compound adjectives, and each pattern was described pedagogically; furthermore a number of examples with their Persian equivalents were also provided for each pattern. It is hoped that the employment of these patterns in the classroom would facilitate both the teaching and learning of them.

Key Words: adjective, compounding, derivation, complex, simple, attributive, predicative

چکیده

صفت‌های مرکب در زبان انگلیسی از ساختار بسیار متنوع و از ترکیبات چنان گوناگونی برخوردارند که شناخت، تدریس و کاربرد آن‌ها بخصوص برای زبان‌آموز انگلیسی بسیار پیچیده و مشکل‌تر از آن است که به نظر می‌رسد. با وجود این، این نوع صفت‌ها در هیچ کتاب دستور زبان انگلیسی آن گونه که شاید مورد بحث و تشریح قرار نگرفته است و صرفاً به اشارات مختصر و نارسایی درباره آن‌ها اکتفا شده است که به هیچ وجه پاسخگوی معلمان و زبان‌آموزان نیست. لذا نیاز به بحث، تشریح و توصیف مفصل و همه‌جانبه آن‌ها به شدت محسوس می‌شود.

منظور از این بررسی نیز جبران همین کمبود و ایجاد تمایز اولیه بین صفت‌های ساده، اشتقاقی و مرکب در زبان انگلیسی بود و آنگاه پرداختن به جمع‌آوری، بررسی و طبقه‌بندی صفت‌های مرکب از نظر ساختاری و اجرای سازنده آن‌ها و بالاخره رسیدن به یک تعداد الگوهای ساختاری کلی که از لحاظ آموزشی، و کاربرد حائز اهمیت و ارزش باشد و امر تدریس و یادگیری آن‌ها را تسهیل بخشد.

نتیجه این بررسی، ارائه ده نوع الگوی کلی ساختاری از ترکیبات صفت‌های مرکب بود که ضمن توصیف یک‌یک آن‌ها ویژگی‌های هر کدام به طور مجزا تشریح گردید و برای هر الگو یک تعداد مثال با معادل فارسی ارائه شد، به این امید که کاربرد آن‌ها در کلاس درس و آموزش آنها به این صورت عملی‌تر و سودمندتر شود و سطح یادگیری دانش‌آموزان را در این خصوص ارتقا بخشد.

کلید واژگان: صفت مرکب، صفت ساده، صفت مشتق، صفت اسنادی، صفت مستدی، صفت چند کلمه‌ای، الگوهای کلی

Introduction

Adjective, as a whole, is a word or a phrase which is used with a noun, adds a concept to it and, in the meanwhile, describes, limits and identifies it (Frank 1993). An adjective can be used as an answer to the questions which begin with **What kind?**, **Which?**, **Whose?**, **How many?** etc. (Vossoughi et al., 1993) like the following examples:

1- I need a **large-size**, **blue** T-shirt. (What kind...?)

2- This shirt is **dark-blue** and that one is light-blue. (Which ...?)

3- **John's** T-shirt is left on the counter. (Whose...?)

4- I want to buy **more** than one T-shirts. (How many...?)

Stageberg (1971) defines adjective as, "A word which is inflected with -er and -est or uses "more" and "most" to change to comparative and superlative degrees (when they are more than two syllables). Adjectives are capable of forming

adverbs with -ly and/or nouns with -ness, for example:

Close, closer, closely, closeness

high, higher, highly, highness

beautiful, more beautiful, most beautiful, beautifully

Celce-Murcia and Larsen-Freeman (1999:381) state, "Adjectives are words that describe a quality of a word".

As far as the forms of adjectives are concerned, we can distinguish three types of adjectives: (a) **simple word** (single morpheme) adjectives whose part of speech is originally adjective and they lack any type of affixes. They may be used attributively before a noun any / or predicatively after a noun via a copula (Leech svartvik 1975); e.g., old, young, live, alive, asleep, etc. (b) the second type of adjectives which are sometimes referred to as adjectivals are **complex** or **derived** ones (Quirk et al. 1985). They are a set of words which have originally been nouns or verbs and by the



addition of special adjectival affixes have been converted to adjectives, like the following examples.

<u>Noun+suffix</u>	<u>Verb+suffix</u>	<u>Prefix+adjectiv</u>	<u>Proper noun+suffix</u>
faulty (-y)	dependent (-ent)	disloyal (dis-)	Arabian (-ian)
lovely (-ly)	pleasant (-ant)	unclear (un-)	Australian (-n)
famous (-ous)	active (-ive)	inactive (in-)	Victorian (-n)
critical (-al)	damaged (-ed)	impure (-im)	Japanese (-ese)
lifelike (-like)	surprising (-ing)	irregular (ir-)	Spanish (-ish)
wooden (-en)	satisfactory(-actory)	nonracial(non-)	Islamic (-ic)
skilled (-ed)	manly (-ly)	apolitical (a-)	Aristotelian (-ian)

(c) The third type of adjectives are the **compound adjectives** which are made up of the combination of two or more words and function as a single word adjective. Celce-Murcia and Larsen-Freeman (1999:385) contend that compound adjectives originate from participles. They assert, "Both present and past participles can be codified by nouns or adverbs to create compound participial adjectives, such as:

noun + present participle: a **man eating** tiger

(آدم خوار)

noun + past participle: a **flea - bitten** dog

(کبک گزیده، مگسی، مزاحم)

adverb + present participle: a **fast-rising** star.

(زودتر از همه طلوع کنند)

Adverb(intensifier) + past participle: a **much - loved** story."

(بسیار دوست داشتی)

Parrott (2000:19) terms this types of adjectives as "Multiword Adjectives" and defines them as thus, "Many adjectives are made up of two parts (usually connected by a hyphen), these two-part adjectives are multiword adjectives. The second part of multiword adjective is often a participle from, e.g.:

adverb and past participle: well-liked, well-intentioned, beautifully-written

noun and past participle: feather-brained, self-contained, people-oriented."

Parrott (ibid:20) continues, "We also derive adjectives from multiword verbs (e.g., wear someone **out**, tie someone **up**). In this case the first part is usually a participle form (e.g. **worn-out**, **tied-up**)".

He also adds, "Other multiword adjectives do not involve participle forms, e.g. two-piece, birds-eye and slip-on in the following description:

"His **two-piece**, **birds-eye** suit is impressive, his blue shirt with its rounded collar immaculate, his thin/faintly European **slip-on** shoes impeccable." (ibid:20)

As the above-mentioned opinions reveal, the modern grammarians, parrott, Celce-Murcia and Larsen-Freeman confine the types of compound adjective to the constructions mainly originated from participles. The assumption of this research is, however, that the multiple-word adjectives (here after referred to as compound adjectives) are not only limited to these structures as adverb/noun+participle.

Research assumption and purpose

The research assumption is that, compound adjectives in English may be constructed on

the basis of varieties of word combinations and the number of words which produce them may be two, three or four, and not always two words only.

The purpose of this study is to search for all types of structural combinations and to discover the different kinds of general patterns of compound adjectives which are currently used in the English language. The Persian equivalents of the adjectives are also provided for all the examples of each pattern to facilitate their teaching and learning. It is hoped that the introduction of these adjectives which are very active in the language use, would help language learners in their ELL task and enhance their language proficiency significantly.

Procedure

In this research, a great attempt has been made to collect as many prevalent and useful compound adjectives as possible from the valid sources, and then to categorize them on the basis of the types and positions of words which make them up into similar constructions. From each category a general pattern have been captured which can be used for pedagogical purposes in EFL situations. The patterns will be described in the following section and for each one 20 examples with their Persian equivalents will be provided.

Structural patterns of compound adjective

From amongst the compound adjectives collected in data (corpus), ten general patterns could be captured. Some of these patterns revealed to be more active and more prevalent in everyday language conversation and daily activities, and so they are more frequent than the others. The statistical data in the conclusion

part will distinguish these types of compound adjectives. The following sections of this paper are devoted to the description of these patterns.

Pattern No.1: Noun + Adjective

This pattern of compound adjective is composed of two main elements, the first of which is a noun and the second an adjective. The adjective is originally a word which functions as an adjective, and it may be a present participle or a past participle. Although most of the types of these compound adjectives are hyphenated in written form, some are put together as a single word, and a few of them are written separately with a space in between.

The Persian equivalents provided in the list of examples will help the learner to learn, memorize, and retrieve these adjectives in reading and writing and also in oral practice of the English language. The total number of the examples of this kind of adjectives collected in the corpus amounted to 388 items but only 20 of them are randomly presented here:

Examples of Noun+Adjective

accident-prone	سانحه پذیر، در معرض سانحه
ell-buttoned	(شلوار) پاچه گشاد
breath-taking	نفس گیر، پرهیجان
cash-starved	(شرکت، موسسه) دچار کمبود بودجه
cocksure	از خودراضی، صد درصد از خود مطمئن
cost-effective	مقرون به صرفه از نظر اقتصادی
crystal-clear	شفاف، کاملاً روشن
dirt cheap	مفت، خیلی ارزان
duty-bound	مدیون
egocentric	خودپسند، خودخواه، خودمحور
gas-fired	(ماشین) گازسوز
gender-specific	تک جنسی
grief-stricken	غم زده، داغ دیده
hair-raising	مخوف، ترسناک، وحشتناک
henpecked	زن ذلیل



interest-free	وام بدون بهره، قرض الحسنه
lead-free	بزرین بدون سرب
letter-perfect	ازیر، از حفظ، آب آب
moonstruck	۱- خیال پرداز، ۲- رویایی، خل، مات
noteworthy	در خور توجه، چشمگیر، مهم

Pattern No.2: Adjective + Adjective

This pattern of compound adjectives is made up of two components each one of which is an adjective by itself. The two adjectives may be of the same type or of different kinds. That is, one of them may be originally an adjective in terms of part of speech, and the other one a derived adjective with an adjective affix or a participle. The following examples will show their structures and forms better. The number of this type of adjectives collected in the corpus is 251. These compounds again, may be hyphenated, separated or combined together in their orthographical shapes.

Examples of Adjective + Adjective

absent-minded	گیج، حواس پرت
arty-crafty	هنرمآبانه، هنرمند مآبانه
bare-faced	پررو، بی حیاء، وقیح
bushy-tailed	پرشور و شوق، مشتاق پرحرارت
clear-sighted	بانبصیرت، واقع بین، فهمیده
close-mouthed	تودار، عمیق
criss-cross	ضربندری، متقاطع
double-breasted	(کد) چهاردکمه
easygoing	۱- آسان گیر، راحت ۲- پرنحمل، بردبار
full-mouthed	بد دهن، یاوه گو
high-born	پاک نژاد، با اصل و نسب
ill-considered	نسنجیده، حساب نشده
itty-bitty(isty-bisty)	کم به تعداد ناچیز
level-headed	عاقل، معقول و منطقی
like-minded	هم مشرب، همفکر، همدل و هم سلیقه
multi-racial	چند نژادی
namby-pamby	۱- ضعیف ۲- احساساتی، بچه صفت
near-sighted	نزدیک بین

nuclear-free	غیرانمی، عاری از سلاح هسته ای
open-mouthed	میهورت، شگفت زده

Pattern No.3: Adjective + Noun

As it is self-expressive, the first constituent of this compound is an adjective and the second one is a noun. All the adjectives are simple, original ones and not the derived ones. The only exceptional is "mixed" in "mixed ability". These adjectives are made up of only one morpheme and a few of them consist more than one syllables. The nouns in this combination are both concrete and abstract ones. Most of the resulting compound adjectives are very frequently used and necessary for everyday conversation.

There are 111 of this type of compound adjectives in the corpus, 20 of which are presented here as examples:

Examples of Adjective + Noun

all-round	۱- همه فن حریف، ۲- همگانی، عمومی
back-door	پشت پرده، مخفیانه، غیرقانونی
bare back	بدون زین
blue water	(کشتی) اقیانوس پیما
cast-iron	فولادین، فولادی
catty/kitty-corner	(واقع در) زاویه مخالف کسی یا چیزی
deep-sea	در قسمت عمیق دریا، دور از ساحل
front-page	(روزنامه) صفحه اول
fair-weather	(رفیق) نیمه راه
heavy-duty	(ابزار، لباس و غیره) بادوام، مقاوم
middle-distance	(مسابقه دو)، نیمه استقامت
mixed-ability	(کلاس، آموزش)، ناهم سطح، با استعدادهای مختلف
next door	دیوار به دیوار، خانه مجاور
old-style	۱- قدیمی، از مد افتاده ۲- کهنه پرست، کهنه گرا
open-door	(سیاست، نظام و غیره) مبتنی بر آزادی
own-label/brand	با مارک تجاری خود (واردات)
plain-clothes	لباس شخصی



quick-fire	قابل اشتعال
red-brick	ساخته شده با آجر قرمز
right-hand-drive	(وسیله نقلیه) راست فرمان

Pattern No.4: Noun + Noun

This type of compound adjective is somehow interesting because two nominal components are combined to make a form functioning adjectivally. The overall meaning of the compound is not easily predictable and distinguishable from the combination of the meanings of the two nouns which make it up. The meanings produced by this type of compound adjectives are broader than the meanings of the two nouns. The total number of the collected compounds is 75 items.

Examples of Noun + Noun

arm-chair	اهل حرف، دور از عمل، راحت طلبانه
ash-blond	(مو) بلوند خاکستری
band box	نوی نو، دست نخورده، تمیز
bed side	۱- بالینی ۲- کنار تختی
buck shee	مفت، مجانی، مفت و مجانی
chicken shit	ترسو، بزدل
north-west	شمال غربی، شمال به غرب
ocean front	مشرف به اقیانوس
one-shot (=one-off)	تک، منحصر به فرد (استثنایی)
Queen-size	بزرگ
chocolate-box	پرآب و رنگ، رنگ و لعاب دار
fifty-fifty	پنجاه - پنجاه، نصف به نصف
helter-skelter	آشفته، بهم ریخته
humdrum	یکنواخت، خسته کننده
hush-hush	محرمانه، مخفی، پنهان
leasehold	اجاره ای
one- woman	(با مدیریت) تنها یک خانم، تک نفر
part-time	پاره وقت، نیمه وقت
parish-pump	ملی، (مربوط به) امور محلی
piece-meal	تکه تکه، کم کم، بتدریج

Pattern No.5: Adverb + Adjective

The two words which produce this type of compound adjective are an adverb as the first component and an adjective as the second one. Some of these adverbs require a present or a past-participle following them in the combination. There were 25 example of this type of compound adjectives in the whole data 20 of which are given here:

counter-productive	دارای نتیجه منفی / معکوس
counter-revolutionary	ضد انقلابی
down-right	محض، کامل
fully-fledged	۱- (جوجه) قادر به پرواز ۲- کامل، تمام عیار
down cast	۱- افسرده، اندوهگین ۲- (نگاه) رویه پایین
down hearted	افسرده، ناامید، غمگین
ever green	همیشه سرسبز، همیشه بهار
ever lasting	۱- ابدی، جاودانه ۲- بادوام ۳- اخروی ۴- یک ریز، مدام
highly strung	حساس، عصبی، زودرنج
never ending	بی پایان، بی انتها، تمام نشدنی
non-smoking	غیر سیگاری، مربوط به قسمت غیر سیگاری ها
outgoing	در حال رفتن / کناره گیری ۲- خون گرم، اجتماعی
outlying	دور افتاده
outmoded	کهنه، منسوخ، ازمد افتاده
outright	۱- کامل، تمام عیار، ۲- مسلم، ۳- آشکار و واضح
outspoken	۱- رک، ۲- صریح، بی پرده
outspoken	گشوده، باز
outstretched	۱- برجسته، چشمگیر، ۲- عقب افتاده، معوق ۳- بیرون زده
outstretched	گشوده، مسطح
out worn	کهنه، منسوخ، از رواج افتاده

Pattern NO.6: Adjective + Preposition

The two main elements of this type of compound adjective are an adjective and a preposition which follows the adjective and is hyphenated in the written form. The meanings of the most items of these adjectives are idiomatic and cannot be predicted by the

meanings of the two constituents that make them up. The Persian equivalents of these adjective should be carefully studied and memorized. The total number of these combinations existed in the corpus is 26.

Examples of Adjective + Preposition

hacked off	کفری، عصبانی
hard up	۱- در مضیقه ۲- تنگدست، بی پول
buttoned-up	۱- ساکت، خجول، کم حرف ۲- دقیق، حساب شده
built-up	۱- ترکیب شده، مرکب از ۲- مسکونی ۳- (کفش) لژدار
built-in	۱- داخلی ۲- درون ساخته ۳- ذاتی (از پیش تعبیه شده) توکار
cheesed-off	خسته، دلزده و بی حوصله ۲- ناراحت، عصبی
clued-up	مطلع، آگاه
far-off	۱- دور، دور دست، ۲- دور افتاده
burnt (burned) out	۱- خسته، وارفته، هلاک ۲- سوخته
swept-back	(بال هواپیما) متمایل به عقب ۲- (مرو) عقب زده
jumped-up	تازه به دوران رسیده
leftover	۱- باقی مانده، باقی، ۲- باز مانده
lived-in	ساکن، دایمی، هم خانه
made-up	۱- آرایش کرده ۲- ساختگی، دروغین ۳- ساخته، آماده
paid-up	(احساسات و عواطف) سرکوب شده، فروخورده ۲- (مجازی) محبوس
pend-up	۱- (عضو انجمن) حق عضویت پرداخته ۲- (مجازی) پرو پاقرص
right-on	۱- در جریان مسایل روز، ۲- مربوط به مسایل روز
screwed-up	(عامیانه) ناراحت، عصبی
stuck-up	(معاور) پرافاده، گنده دماغ
switched-on	گوش بزنگ، در جریان امور

Pattern No.7: Determiner(All) + Adjective/Noun

A group of compound adjectives in English are created by the combination of "all" (as a determiner or pre-determiner) and an adjective or a noun. In the Arabic language there is a group of exaggeration adjectives (صفات یا صیغه مبالغه)

which are also used as the attributes to God and have become the Names of Allah. In the English language, there are not any counterparts for these adjectives; they are artificially made on the basis of this pattern to compensate the lack of the equivalents of the Arabic counterparts. In the Persian language, the same Arabic words are well known to Persian speakers. The exaggeration adjectives in Arabic are produced on the basis of three grammatical paradigms (باب‌ها) which are فعول، فعلیل and their examples are غفار، ودود، رحیم. In Arabic there are many names of this type to term God. In the following list, of course, some of these adjectives of exaggeration can be found and some others are those of original type, not the calque.

all-(a)round	همه کاره ذو فتون، همه فن حریف
All-aware	از همه چیز و همه جا باخبر (الخبیر)
All-accomplished	جامع کمالات (الکامل)
All-benign	کاملاً مهربان (اللطیف)
All-bounteous	بخشنده کامل، آموزنده (الرحمان)
All-bountiful	فیاض مطلق (الرحیم)
All-clement	صبور، رحیم (الحلیم)
All-compassionate	رحم کننده بر همه (الرحیم)
All-compeller	جبار (الجبار)
all-conquering	گیتی ستان، جهانگیر
All-embracing	شامل بر همه، محیط بر همه، (الواسع)
All-exalted	بالا تر از همه (المتعال)
All-faithful	با ایمان کامل (المؤمن)
all-fired	(معاوره آمریکایی) حسابی، زیاد، بیش از حد
All-forgiving	بخشنده همه گناهان (الغفور)
All-generous	بسیار بخشنده و با سخاوت (الکریم)
All-gentle	بسیار با ملامت (الرؤف)
All-guiding	هادی کل (الهادی)
All-giving	بسیار بخشنده (الوهاب)
All-glorious	بسیار یا شکوه (المجید، العظیم)
All-good	کریم، (الکریم)
All-grateful	بسیار شکر گزارنده (الشاکر)
All- great	بزرگترین، بزرگتر از همه (اکبر)

All-hearing	شنونده همه چیز (السمیع)
All-high	والاثر از همه (العلی)
All-holy	متره از همه چیز (القدوس)
All-laudable	بسیار ستایش شونده (الحمید)
All-loving	بسیار دوست دارنده (الودود)
All-merciful	بسیار ترحم کننده (الرحمن)
All-mighty. (Almighty)	بسیار عزیز داشته شده (العزیز، الجبار)
All- pardoning	بسیار عفو کننده (المعفو)
all-in	۱- (محاوره) خسته، کوفته، از پا افتاده ۲- همه جانبه، فراگیر، تمام عیار
All-inclusive	شامل مطلق (المحیط)
All-knowing	بسیار داننده (العلیم)
all-out	خسته و وامانده
All-peaceable	بسیار سلیم (السلام)
All-perceiving	بسیار و همواره درک کننده، ذرآک
All-perfect	کمال مطلق (السَّوَّح)
all-potency	قدرت مطلق (القادر)
All-powerful	با توانایی کامل (القادر، القدير، المقتدر)
All-preserver	کاملاً حفظ شده (المهیمن)
Sublime	متعال، کبریاپی (المتکبر)
All-subtle	بسیار ظریف (اللطفیف)
All-sufficient	بسیار خودکفا (الغنی)
All-sustaining	همیشه پابرجا (القیوم)
all-mains	(برق) قابل تبدیل
All-merciful	بخشایشگر رحمان، (الرحیم)
All-purpose	همه منظوره
All-potent	توانا، دارای توان برای انجام همه کار (القادر)
All-stat	(فیلم و سینما) با حضور تمام بازیگران مشهور
All-sustaining	بسیار پایدار و مقاوم (القیوم)
all-there	حاضرالذهن

Pattern No.8: Three / four- Word Adjectives

This type of compound adjectives are of two subcategories. The first one is composed of three constituents, one of which may be a **preposition**, a **conjunction** or an **article**. In some of them you may find a noun and an adjective as their content words; in some

others, there may be two nouns or two adjectives; however, we can't predict the meaning of most of them on the basis of the meaning of their content words. There have been 62 items of this type of compound adjectives in the collected corpus. You will find the examples in here:

Examples with conjunctions

Almighty and Glorious	عزوجل (خدا)
black and blue	(پوست) کیود
black-and-white	(تلویزیون) سفیدوسیاه
black-and-dagger	(بطورمسخره) سرّی، مزموز، مخفیانه
hit-and-miss	تصادفی، شانسی، الله بختکی
hit-and-run	(تصادفی) بزن و دررو، فرارکن
life-and-dead	۱- خطر، حیاطی، مربوط به مرگ و زندگی ۲- تا پای جان، تا سرحد مرگ
nickel-and-dime	(حقوق) شندرغاز، ناچیز، بخورونمیر
out-and-out	به تمام معنا، تمام عیار، صد درصد
pen-and-ink	(طرح و تصویر) سیاه قلم
rough-and-ready	۱- سرسری، ۲- سردستی، سرهم بندی، سرانگشتی
smash-and-grab	(دزدی، حمله) بزن و ببر، بشکن و ببر
touch-and-go	نامعلوم
up-and-coming	در حال ترقی، خوش آیند

Examples with prepositions,etc.

air-to-air	هوا به هوا (موشک)
air-to-ground	هوا به زمین
blow-to-blow	جزیه به جزیه، موبه مو، مشروح
bunper-to-bunper	(اتومبیل) جفت هم، پشت سرهم، چسبیده به هم
day-to-day	۱- روزمره، هر روز، ۲- روز به روز
hand-to-hand	(جنگ، مبارزه) فیزیکی، جسمی
head-to-head	(گفت و گو یا مجادله) رودررو، مستقیم
heart-to-heart	رک و راست، بی رودرواسی، خودمانی
house-to-house	خانه به خانه
one-to-one	یک به یک، انفرادی
person-to-person	۱- رودررو، ۲- خصوصی دوستانه، ۳- شخص به شخص

made-to-measure	(لباس) سفارشی
made-to-order	(لباس، مبلمان) سفارشی، مخصوص
ready-to-wear	(لباس) دوخته، حاضری

The **second** subcategory is the four-word adjective. The adjectives related to this category are made up of four words. All the examples which have been existed in the corpus are presented below:

hole-in-the-wall	(رستوران، عابربانک، تلفن و غیره) کاری
middle-of-the-road	۱- میانه رو ۲- معتدل ۳- متوسط، میان حال
out-of-the-way	۱- دورافتاده، پرت ۲- ناآشنا، دور از ذهن
roll-on-roll-off	(ماشین‌ها، کشتی‌ها، هواپیماهایی که وسایل نقلیه مسافر را نیز حمل می‌کنند) ماشین بر
run-of-the-mill	معمولی، پیش پا افتاده
up-to-the-minute	۱- (اطلاعات) تازه‌ترین، داغ داغ ۲- (لباس و غیره) آخرین مد ۳- (گزارش) لحظه به لحظه

Pattern No.9: Adverb/Preposition + Noun

In this pattern, the first element in an adverb or a preposition and the second element is a noun. The distinction of the first constituent as an adverb or preposition is not exactly clear in all cases. That in why we made a general pattern of these two cases. Their examples are given below and the entire number of them is about 24 items.

Group (a): Adverb+Noun

cross-border	(حمله، درگیری) مرزی
cross-country	(مسابقه دو) صحرایی
counter-terrorist	ضد تروریستی
downstairs/down-stairs	پائینی، طبقه پایین
down-wind	در جهت وزش باد
dounhill/downhill	۱- سرازیری ۲- آسان، مثل آب خوردن
downstream	در مسیر حرکت آب

down-market	عامه پسند، بازاری، بنجل
no-win	محکوم به شکست
outside	۱- بیرونی، خارجی ۲- حداکثر، بیش‌ترین ۳- کم، اندک
outside(d)	(لباسی) بزرگ‌تر از اندازه متعارف یا معمول
south-westernly	جنوب غربی

Group(b): Preposition + Noun

indoor	۱- داخلی، درونی ۲- (ورزش) داخل سالن
in-flight	(هواپیما) در حال پرواز
in-house	داخلی، درون سازمانی
in-service/in-service	ضمن خدمت، حین خدمت
inshore	ساحلی
off base/offside	کاملاً در اشتباه، خارج از موقعیت
on line/online	(کامپیوتر) پیوسته به اینترنت، متصل، روی خط، حین کار
on-screen	(تلویزیون و کامپیوتر) روی صفحه
onshore	ساحلی
In print	به صورت چاپ ۲- (کتاب) موجود و تمام نشده ۳- در دست چاپ
onstage	روی صحنه
underground	زیرزمینی

No.10: Miscellaneous Compound Adjectives

There is a small group of compound adjectives which cannot be classified into a general pattern but they should be considered and taken into account because the learners may come across them in texts or spoken language and need to learn them. For this purpose we bring them below here and will take care of them in our EFL task. They will constitute some sub-patterns of their own.

Sub-pattern (a): Verb + Adv/Prep

knock-about	(کمدی) بزن بکوب
knock-down	(قیمت) پائین‌ترین، ۲- (مبلمان) ناشو
knock-on	دارای عواقب ناگوار، دارای تأثیر قوی بر سایر چیزها
knock-out	۱- مرگه، محشر، عالی ۲- (مسابقه) حذفی





	۳- (دارو) خواب آور
live-in	(جفت دختر یا پسر) هم خانه، دارای زندگی مشترک ۲- (مستخدم) دائم، مقیم
pull-down	(تخت) به طرف پایین باز شو
roll-on	(ضدبو) تویی، رولان
take-away/out	۱- (غذا) تحویلی بیرون بردنی ۲- رستوران، بخر و ببر (مثل شاندریز)
throw-away	۱- (ظرف و دستمال) یکبار مصرف، ۲- (حرف و نکته) اتفاقی همین طوری، سردستی
tumble-down	خراب، کلنگی، زهواردر رفته، فکسنی
walk-on	(زل تئاتر) کوتاه، صامت
walk-up	بدون آسانسور

Sub-pattern(b): Noun + Adv/ Prep

South-westernly	۱- (باد) از جانب جنوبی، جنوب غربی ۲- (جهت) جنوب غربی
South- easternly	۱- (باد) از جانب جنوب شرقی، جنوب شرقی، ۲- (جهت) جنوب شرقی
ton-up	(عامیانه) (موتور سوار، راننده) دیوانه سرعت

Sub-pattern(c): V + Adj/PP

scatter-brained	(محاوره) حواس پرت، فراموش کار، بی هوش و حواس
shatter proof	۱- (لیوان یا شیشه) نشکن ۲- (شیشه اتومبیل) نشکن، تری پلکس، تلق دار
stand-up	۱- (غذا، برنامه) ایستاده ۲- (دعوا و غیره) رودر رو، جدی، خشن

Sub-pattern(d): V + V

go-go	(رقص و رقاصه) بدون پوشش
pass-fail	(نمره آموزشی) قبولی - مردودی، نه بر اساس درجه بندی و نمره گذاری

Sub-pattern (e): N + V

self-drive	(اتومبیل کرایه ای) بدون راننده
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Subpattern(f): Adv + Adv

so-so	متوسط، نه خوب نه بد
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Conclusion

Compound adjectives (C.Adjs) are very numerous, active and of vast variety which are used in all skills of English very frequently. Consequently, an English language learner can't help learning them very seriously if he wishes to cope with English as a medium of communication. The following table will provide the information about the frequency of each pattern along with its percentage of occurrence in the corpus under study.

Pattern	Formal Structures	Total No.of Occurrence	Percentage of Occurrence
No.1	N+Adj	398	%36.92
No.2	Adj+Adj	277	%25.69
No.3	Adj+N	131	%12.15
NO.4	N+N	60	%5.56
No.5	Adv+Adj	25	%2.39
No.6	Adj+Preposition	26	%2.41
No.7	All(Det)+Adj/N	53	%4.91
NO.8	3/4 Word Adj	62	%5.75
No.9	Adv/pre+N	24	%2.22
No.10	Miscellaneous	22	%2.15
	Total No.	1078	%99.99#100

The total number of the C. Adjs collected and dealt with in this study was amounted to 1078 items, and the most frequent pattern of them was revealed to be the combination of N+Adj which shows the 36.92 percentage of the entire set. Pattern No.10. is composed of some small sub-groups of C. Adjs the example of which have already been presented.

Teaching and Learning Significance of C. Adjs

If we study and compare the forms and the meanings of the C. Adjs, we can really distinguish three different groups among them as far as the relationship between the forms and meanings are concerned. These groups will be described below one by one.

(a) The first group of C. Adjs are those whose formal shapes or words used in the formation of their combination keep their lexical or denotative meanings, and the entire meaning of each C. Adj. is more or less similar to the total meanings of the two or three words which make it up. So if the learner knows the meanings of the individual words, he can readily predict the meaning of the whole C. Adj too, without any serious problem. He even doesn't need any context for guessing the meanings of this type of C.Adjs. The number of them in the corpus is not relatively high. Some of their examples are presented below:

multi-racial, grief-stricken, front-page, gas-fired, round-table, ash-blonde, fifty-fifty, one-way, one-piece, all-purpose, reply-paid, black-and-white, air-to-air, hit-and-run, north-west, never-ending, etc.

(b) The second group of C.Adjs contains those adjectives whose meanings can partially be reflected from their formal constructions or can incompletely be guessed from the meanings of the words existed in the combination. Usually some modifications should be imposed on the meanings of the words to adjust it with the total meaning resulted from the combination or the C.Adj. Although most of the learner' guessing may be along the right path, the presence of linguistic is very helpful in many cases. However, once the learner has found out the concept of these types of C.Adjs, he would not forget them in future. Try some of the examples of these combinations:

lead-free, bare-back, deep-sea, middle-distance, next-door, round-trip, quick-fire, ready-to-wear, out-of-the-way, feather-brained, out-moded, All-knowing, etc.

The meanings of these C.Adjs are mostly

associative, figurative, metaphoric, metonymic; and context will help guessing more closely.

(c) The third group of C.Adjs which constitute the largest and the most difficult group for the learner consists of combinations whose meanings are totally **idiomatic** and unpredictable from the meanings of the words used in them. In other words, the individual meanings of the words of these C.Adjs do not have anything to do with the total meaning of their own construction. The learner should learn the meanings of these C.Adjs from the context and then memorize them for future use.

Again, some examples of this type of C.Adjs will be given below, but the Persian equivalents of them are also provided for the reader to compare the form and meaning of each one and concentrate on the meanings of single words in the combination and the total meaning of the compounds.

letter perfect	کاملاً از بر، از حفظ، آب آب
face-saving	حیثیتی، برای حفظ آبرو
hair-raising	مخوف، وحشتناک، ترسناک
henpecked	زن ذلیل
public-spirited	نیکوکار، غیر
bare-faced	پررو، بی حیا
open-mouthed	مبهوت، شگفت زده
switched-on	گوش به زنگ، در جریان امور
fly-by-night	غیرقابل اعتماد، کلاه بردار
holier-than-thou	جانماز آیکش، زهد فروش
itty-bitty	کم، مقدار یا تعداد ناچیز
namby-pamby	مست، مست، احساساتی
level-headed	عادل، معقول، منطقی
down-hearted	افسرده، ناامید، غمگین

The three types of relationships between the forms and the semantic components of the C.Adjs very crucially suggest three degrees of predictability of their meanings by the formal



shapes of them. These degrees can be demonstrated along a scale and its two extremes as shown below:

The scale of the degree of predictability of the meanings of C.Adjs by their forms

100	group (b)	0
group(a)		group(c)
complete predictability		complete unpredictability
context free		context bound
denotation meaning		idiomatic meaning

The two extremes of the above scale show the positions of group (a) and group (c) of the C.Adjs which exactly opposite characteristics; however, the C.Adjes of group (b) will spread somewhere between these two extremes depending on their higher or lower degree of predictability.

The English language teachers would logically teach group (a) before group (b) and group (c) after group (b) to move ahead from easy to difficult procedure.

Forms and functions of C. Adjs

A final point about C.Adjs which deserves attention here is that the formal shape of some C.Adjs reveal to be an adjective by the special affixes or natural parts of speech they always characterize (see Quirk et al 1985); however, many C.Adjs formally resemble the noun or verb forms but function adjectivally. This heterogeneity between the form and function of some C.Adjs causes some problem for foreign language learners. Some of the examples of this type of combinations will be presented here especially to attract the language teacher's attention to put more emphasis on them in their tasks:

hand-to-mouth
nickel-and-dime

touch-and-go
blue-water
deep-sea
queen-size
open-door
mixed-ability
criss-cross
pen-and-ink
back-door
cast-iron
fair-weather
quick-fire
chocolate-box
all-mains

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