

# 22 Common adjectives: good and bad things

## A (+) 'good' adjectives

A good restaurant.



A better restaurant.



The best restaurant in town.



This restaurant is **better than** that one.

nice (+) lovely (++) wonderful (+++) excellent (++++)

A: That's a **nice** jacket.

B: Thank you.



A: It's a **lovely** day today!

B: Yes, it is.



A wonderful view



Mary's a **wonderful** person.

Everybody loves her.

A: Do you want to go to London on Saturday?

B: That's an **excellent** (= very good) idea!

When you answer and want to say how you feel:

A: The train arrives at six o'clock; dinner is at seven.

B: Excellent! / Great! / Wonderful! / Lovely! / Perfect!

## B (-) 'bad' adjectives

bad (worse / the worst) (-) awful (- -) terrible (- - -) horrible (- - -)

bad weather



My hair is **awful**!



The weather last year was **worse than** this year.

Tim is a **horrible** person. Nobody likes him. (used about people)

I had a **terrible** day at work today. (used about situations)

The traffic's **terrible** at 5 o'clock on Fridays.

**Note:** We often say **not bad** when we are speaking:

A: I get \$500 a week in my job.

B: That's **not bad**! (= good!)

You can say these adjectives with **how**:

A: I have to get up at 5.30 tomorrow.

B: Oh, **how awful**! / **horrible**! [NOT ~~how bad~~]

# Exercises

## 22.1 Fill the gaps, as in the example.

- 1 My hair's ....*awful*.... I must go to the hairdresser's.
- 2 The weather's ..... I don't want to go out.
- 3 The traffic is ..... in the city centre. Take the train.
- 4 That's a(n) ..... idea! Let's do it!
- 5 How .....! Three exams on the same day!
- 6 What a ..... house! The sea is only 100 metres away!
- 7 My timetable's not ..... I'm free on Wednesdays and Fridays.

## 22.2 What can you say? Someone says to you ...

- 1 Do you like my new jacket?
- 2 I have to get up at 4.30 tomorrow morning.
- 3 Shall we go out for dinner tonight?
- 4 (*In your town*) Excuse me. Is there a good restaurant in this town?
- 5 What sort of person is your English teacher?

## 22.3 What goes together? Match a description from the left with an expression from the right. Draw lines.

- |                                     |                           |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Blue sky, sun 25°.                | a Wonderful news.         |
| 2 5 stars (★★★★★), very famous.     | b Awful weather.          |
| 3 Bad person. Nobody likes him/her. | c Lovely weather.         |
| 4 90 out of 100 in an exam.         | d An excellent idea.      |
| 5 Grey sky, wind, rain, 11°.        | e The best hotel in town. |
| 6 We can take a taxi.               | f A horrible person.      |

## 22.4 Use a dictionary. Put these new words into the *good* or *bad* column.

dreadful ghastly gorgeous marvellous horrendous fine superb brilliant

*good (+)*

*bad (-)*

*dreadful*

## 22.5 Look at the adjectives in 22.4. Think of two nouns to go with each of the adjectives.

*dreadful weather/film*