

## Adjectives and the Words They Modify

**14c.** An *adjective* modifies a noun or a pronoun.

Adjectives modify nouns or pronouns by telling *what kind, which one, how many, or how much*. The most frequently used adjectives—*a, an,* and *the*—are called *articles*.

**EXAMPLES** A **bright orange** zinnia danced in **the** wind.

We will be **happy** to buy tickets to your **new** play.

**EXERCISE** In the sentences below, underline each adjective. Then, draw an arrow to the word it modifies. Do not include articles.

**Example 1.** Miss Oseola McCarty will be remembered for her scholarship fund set up for deserving students at the University of Southern Mississippi.

1. This gracious African American woman, whose ninety-one years were filled with hard work and many dreams, was Miss Ola to family and friends.
2. Lucy, her hardworking mother, inspired her money-saving habits.
3. Once Oseola began attending elementary school in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, her lifelong home, she would come home each day and help with laundry bundles to earn even the least bit of money, saving these small amounts until she had enough to open a savings account.
4. Even then, her every thought was to provide whatever care she could for her grandmother and other members of her family who had no one.
5. The life of this young girl changed forever when she left sixth grade to care for a sick aunt and never returned to follow her own dream of becoming a nurse.
6. In the following years, Miss Ola continued to keep long hours in her laundry business and to deposit her savings in various local bank accounts.
7. Because her formal education was incomplete, she wanted to set up a scholarship to give other black students the education she had missed.
8. Two bank employees, longtime friends, had been helping her make conservative investments so her savings would grow.
9. Those two women, the trust officer of the bank and an attorney, helped her establish a scholarship for African American students at the University of Southern Mississippi.
10. The amazing story behind a scholarship fund of such significance as hers has been told often in print and on national television.