



Adjectives and Numbers

Adjectives and Numbers

Take a look at this example sentence...

He earns a salary that is six figures.

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He earns a salary that is six figures.

In this sentence, the number is six and this is telling us the salary of the man.

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He earns a salary that is six figures.

But it is possible to change the structure of this sentence and convert the number phrase into an adjective instead.

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He earns a salary that is six figures.

The first thing we need to do is hyphenate the number and the measurement it is describing.

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He earns a salary that is six-figures.

In this sentence, this is *six-figures*.

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He earns a salary that is six-figures.

In English, adjectives always go before the noun,
so we need to insert this new adjective before
the noun.

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*He earns a **six-figures** salary.*

The noun in this sentence is **salary**.

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*He earns a **six-figures** salary.*

But this is still incorrect! When we convert a number to an adjective, the description must be singular. Remember we don't have plural adjectives in English.

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He earns a six-figure salary.

So we need to eliminate the “S” from figures. We finally have a correct sentence.

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He earns a salary that is six figures



He earns a six-figure salary

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Let's try another example...

The race is twenty-five metres.

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The race is twenty-five-metres.

First we hyphenate the number and measurement. In this case 25 is already hyphenated, but this doesn't matter, we still need the hyphen between the number and "metres".

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The **twenty-five-metres** race.

Then we place this adjective in front of the noun
“race”.

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The twenty-five-metre race.

Then we make the adjective singular (eliminate the S).

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The race is twenty-five metres



The twenty-five-metre race