

## Episode 098 – Grammar

### Declension of adjectives in a sequence

German adjectives provide more information about something or someone, an occurrence or a condition. They often describe nouns and personal pronouns.

You've already learned how to inflect an adjective that precedes a noun. If the adjective comes directly before the noun it modifies, then its ending changes. The adjective is usually placed between the noun and its article.

If several adjectives precede a noun, they all get the same ending. In other words, they all follow the same pattern of declension.

Examples:

*Ich hätte gern **die großen roten** Rosen.*

*Ich hätte gern **22 große rote** Rosen.*

*Ich möchte **einen großen, romantischen** Blumenstrauß.*

### Comma placement

If all the adjectives modify the subsequent noun equally, then they share the same ranking. They're treated like a string of words and are separated by commas.

Example:

*Ich möchte einen **großen, romantischen** Blumenstrauß.*

## Harry – gefangen in der Zeit

Begleitmaterialien

The word "und" could be inserted between adjectives of equal ranking.

Example:

*Ich möchte einen **großen und romantischen** Blumenstrauß.*

If the adjective directly adjacent to the noun forms a unit with the noun, then the adjectives are not equal. In this case they are not separated by a comma because the first adjective modifies the subsequent word group, which comprises a noun and an adjective.

Example:

*Ich hätte gern die **großen roten** Rosen.* (I would like the red roses that are big.)

Whether two or more adjectives in a sentence need to be separated by commas usually depends on the intended meaning of that particular sentence.

Example:

*Er hat ein **neues schnelles** Auto.* (= Sein altes Auto war auch schnell.)

*Er hat ein **neues, schnelles** Auto.* (= Sein altes Auto war vermutlich nicht so schnell.)