



Expansion Activities  
Basic English Grammar, 4th Edition  
Chapter 14: Nouns and Modifiers

**Activity: Nouns and Modifiers**

**Materials needed:** A Mad Lib worksheet like the sample provided below.

**Description:** A Mad Lib is a simple story with blank lines. Students work in pairs, and one student goes through the mad lib and tells the other student to supply the needed words. The second student is supplying words out of context; the second student does not know or see the story yet. When all the missing words have been filled in, the first partner reads the Mad Lib to the second partner. The result is a wacky, but grammatically correct, story the two have created. At the end of the activity, each pair can read its story to the class. For larger classes, have two or three different Mad Libs made so students won't get bored hearing the same story ten times.



**Sample Mad Lib:**

Kevin needs a roommate. He placed an advertisement, and then he interviewed a few

guys. The first man, Jason, was a/an \_\_\_\_\_,  
(opinion)

\_\_\_\_\_ actor. He worked until very late at night and slept all day. The second  
(size)

guy, Jeff, was a/an \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ man with \_\_\_\_\_ hair  
(opinion) (age) (color)

and a/an \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
(opinion) (age) (size) (nationality)

dog. However, Kevin didn't want a pet in the apartment. The third guy, Mickey,

seemed like a/an \_\_\_\_\_ guy. He plays \_\_\_\_\_ music on  
(opinion) (nationality)

a/an \_\_\_\_\_, and he is also an artist. He makes works of art with  
(musical instrument)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_. Kevin thinks that he  
(color) (material) (plural noun)

and Jeff will get along well because Kevin is also a creative person. Kevin writes

\_\_\_\_\_ stories and sells them to magazines. (noun)