Introduction
This engaging two-page worksheet activity helps you to teach your students how to form and use compound adjectives.

Procedure
Give each student a copy of the two worksheets.

Read through the introduction and review the different ways to form compound adjectives together as a class.

Next, have the students describe the nouns in the first exercise using compound adjectives. Go through the first one as an example, i.e. a ten-minute walk.

When the students have finished, go through the correct answers with the class.

After that, students move on to match words together to form 12 compound adjectives and then use them to complete sentences.

The students then work with a partner and practice describing themselves and others using compound adjectives.

Finally, review the students' descriptions together as a class and give feedback.

(Answer key on the next page)
Answer key

Exercise A
1. a ten-minute walk 11. a mouth-watering dessert
2. a twelve-story building 12. a strong-willed woman
3. a five-year-old boy 13. slow-moving traffic
4. a thirty-page report 14. a good-looking man
5. high-spirited students 15. long-lasting medicine
6. well-behaved children 16. an open-minded person
7. a green-eyed monster 17. a brightly-lit room
8. a short-haired man 18. a thought-provoking documentary
9. a kind-hearted lady 19. a world-famous museum
10. a time-saving app 20. fat-free cookies

Exercise B
1 h. part-time 7 i. five-star
2 j. well-known 8 a. far-reaching
3 k. middle-aged 9 g. forward-thinking
4 f. English-speaking 10 b. ice-cold
5 l. narrow-minded 11 e. last-minute
6 d. old-fashioned 12 c. home-made

Exercise C
1. ice-cold 7. home-made
2. old-fashioned 8. part-time
3. far-reaching 9. last-minute
4. forward-thinking 10. well-known
5. middle-aged 11. English-speaking
6. narrow-minded 12. five-star
A compound adjective is an adjective that contains two or more words. Generally, we put a hyphen between the words when we want them to act as a single adjective before a noun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Compound Adjectives</th>
<th>Examples:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number + Noun</td>
<td>A break that takes ten minutes is a <strong>ten-minute</strong> break.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjective + Noun</td>
<td>A bike ride over a long distance is a <strong>long-distance</strong> bike ride.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjective + Present Participle</td>
<td>A person who works hard is a <strong>hard-working</strong> person.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noun + Present Participle</td>
<td>An athlete who breaks records is a <strong>record-breaking</strong> athlete.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Noun + Adjective</td>
<td>A room that is free from smoke is a <strong>smoke-free</strong> room.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noun + Past Participle</td>
<td>An engine cooled by water is a <strong>water-cooled</strong> engine.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjective + Past Participle</td>
<td>A man with a bad temper is a <strong>bad-tempered</strong> man.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverb + Past Participle</td>
<td>A city that has a dense population is a <strong>densely-populated</strong> city.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A. Describe the nouns using compound adjectives.

1. a walk that takes ten minutes ___________ **a ten-minute walk**
2. a building that has twelve stories ___________
3. a boy who is five years old ___________
4. a report that is thirty pages long ___________
5. students in high spirits ___________
6. children who behave well ___________
7. a monster with green eyes ___________
8. a man who has short hair ___________
9. a lady with a kind heart ___________
10. an app that saves time ___________
11. a dessert that makes your mouth water ___________
12. a woman who has a strong will ___________
13. traffic that moves slowly ___________
14. a man who looks good ___________
15. medicine that lasts a long time ___________
16. a person who has an open mind ___________
17. a room that has bright lights ___________
18. a documentary that provokes thinking ___________
19. a museum that is famous throughout the world ___________
20. cookies that are free from fat ___________
B. Match the words together to form 12 compound adjectives.

1. part       a. reaching
2. well       b. cold
3. middle     c. made
4. English    d. fashioned
5. narrow     e. minute
6. old        f. speaking
7. five       g. thinking
8. far        h. time
9. forward    i. star
10. ice       j. known
11. last      k. aged
12. home      l. minded

C. Use the compound adjectives in Exercise B to complete the sentences.

1. There's nothing better than drinking an ____________ beer on a hot summer day.
2. There are some traditional farmers left who still make cheese the ____________ way.
3. Tourism has had ____________ effects on Thailand’s economy.
4. Some ____________ politicians are proposing reforms to the educational system.
5. A ____________ person is between 45 and 65 years old.
6. I don't like ____________ people who are intolerant of new ideas.
7. ____________ jam is usually better than the kinds you buy in the shops.
8. Many students get a ____________ job if they are not eligible for a loan.
9. A ____________ goal by England put them through to the World Cup Final.
10. It's a ____________ fact that smoking can cause lung cancer.
11. Lessons with ____________ instructors can be booked in the language school.
12. Sydney has many ____________ hotels and luxurious resorts.

D. Now, work with a partner.

1. Describe yourself using compound adjectives. Does your partner agree with you?
2. Use compound adjectives to describe someone in the class. Can your partner guess who it is?
3. Discuss which compound adjectives you would use to describe a good and bad friend.