
Analyzing Adjectives

1. Using a literal English translation, note the noun being modified by the adjective, the number (singular or plural) of the noun, and the function of the noun in its sentence/clause/phrase. Find the adjective *and* noun in the BH interlinear and note their gender, grammatical markers, glosses, and Strong's numbers.

2. Based on the English translation and interlinear glosses, and with an initial survey of other passages using the adjective in same/similar and different ways (which will include the same and different nouns being modified by the adjective), what is the central idea (core meaning) of this adjective *in its context*?

3. Using Table 69, what type of adjective is the target word, and how is the adjective being used (attributively, predicatively, substantively)? How does the type and use contribute to its meaning and the meaning of the noun being modified (unless the adjective is being used in place of a noun)?

4. Write out the BDAG (for Greek) or BDB (for Hebrew) entry and any subentries that represents the primary meaning of the adjective. Write a preliminary conclusion for the meaning of your word in context.

5. Using Webster's, skim through the primary entries for the adjective and write down the entry numbers for the possible meanings most similar to how it is used in your passage, then narrow your list to the entry that most closely means the same as you found in BDAG/BDB.

6. Use Roget's or Webster's to find the most relevant synonym study for your adjective. Write out a paragraph that explains the similarities and differences between the most relevant synonyms and which one in particular most clearly explains the meaning of your target word.

7. Write out a *thorough* conclusion for the meaning of your adjective in context. Include key concepts from the context of your passage and the author's intention for using this particular word. Your conclusion needs to show a grasp of the grammatical usage in context, similar and different usages, and the nuances involved with similar terms. This should include any insights from the historical,

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cultural, and literary context of your passage, its author, and the original audience. Your final statement should firmly assert what the author meant in his use of the term within the phrase where it is used. Since adjectives are modifiers, your conclusion also needs to discuss how and why the term is being used with the particular noun (if present) it is modifying and how the type of modification impacts the meaning of the noun. Why was the adjective used at all? How would the sentence, clause or phrase be impacted if the adjective were not present?