

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

To hyphenate or not to hyphenate... that is the question...  
(No-Nonsense, Adjective-Hyphenating Exercises)

**RULE 1**

Use a hyphen to join adjectives that appear before a noun to describe it.

example: We went to a **first-rate** hotel.

**RULE 2**

When you're writing someone's age or size to describe them, separate each word with a hyphen.

example: He is a smart **ten-year-old** boy.

**In the sentences below, circle the words that should be connected by a hyphen.**

1. Amy got a part time job working at a pet store.
2. Tommy's 12 year old dog is the oldest in the neighborhood.
3. My mom drove the wrong way down a one way street yesterday!
4. Joshua is the smartest nine year old boy I have ever met.
5. That police officer is a friendly looking man.
6. The well known actress accepted her award.
7. Brian got a much needed haircut.
8. Our class president is a very self assured boy.
9. There is an old fashioned love song on the radio.
10. All of the students were well dressed for their class photo.
11. Of all the ice cream flavors, chocolate and vanilla are the best known.
12. Everyone likes Mary because she is so happy go lucky.
13. The eight foot tall man looked out of place in the tiny room.
14. The toy drive was a huge success because of the well placed collection bins.