Some Notes on Adjectives

- Nouns have an inherent gender; adjectives do not
  - e.g., **वन** is neuter, **मुनि** is masculine, etc.; **सत्य**, meaning "true," has no gender
- Nouns only exist in usage in a declined form (i.e., in a specific number and case)
  - e.g., **मुनिः गच्छति ।** where "sage" is singular and nominative; never: **मुनि गच्छति ।**
- To show which noun an adjective modifies, the adjective is given its noun's gender-case-number and is usually (though as one sees in poetry, not always) placed before the noun
  - e.g., in **सत्येन मुनिना**, "**सत्य**" is declined in the m.s.ins. because that is the gender-case-# of **मुनि**
- Adjectives are always declined in a paradigm on the basis of the final of their stem
  - e.g., **शुचि**, "pure" will always be declined in a final "**-इ**" paradigm, **चारु** will always be declined in a final "**-उ**" paradigm, etc.
  - e.g., take the sentence, **मुनिः वनाय गच्छति ।** If we want to indicate that the sage goes to a "holy" forest, then **शुचि** will take on the gender-case-number of the noun it's modifying (**वनाय**), which is here n.s.dat. So because **शुचि** ends in an -i vowel, it will be declined in the singular dative like our neuter -i final stem paradigm (**वारि**), i.e., **वारिणे**, so, **शुचिने**
    - = **मुनिः शुचिने वनाय गच्छति ।**

1. Step 1: adjective takes on **gender** of noun it modifies: **वन** is neuter, so **शुचि** becomes neuter
2. Step 2: match adjective with appropriate paradigm in terms of **gender** (m/n/f) and its **final letter** (e.g., final -a, -i, -u, etc.): because **शुचि** is here a n. -i stem, it goes to the **वारि** paradigm
3. Step 3: decline it in the **same case and number** as the noun it modifies: here **वनाय** is s.dat., so the s.dat. form of **शुचि** will be **शुचिने** (just like **वारिणे**)

ADJ(-vowel)		NOUN(gender-case-number-ending)			
शुचि		**वनाय**	**चारु**		**अश्वे**
1.	←	gender (neuter)		←	gender (masculine)
2. ↓			↓		
वारि (n. -i)			**तरु** (m. -u)		
3. **शुचिने**	←	case/number (singular/dative)	**चारौ**	←	case/number (s.loc.)

-a (m)	-a (n)	-ā (f)	-i (m)	-i (n)	-i (f)	-u (m)	-u (n)	-u (f)	-ṛ (rel)	-ṛ (m)	-ṛ (n)
कूपः	वनम्	लता	मुनिः	वारि	मतिः	तरुः	मधु	धेनुः	पितृ	नेतृ	गन्तृ

नेत्री	नेत्र्यौ	नेत्र्यः
नेत्रीम्	नेत्र्यौ	नेत्रीः
नेत्र्या	नेत्रीभ्याम्	नेत्रीभिः
नेत्र्यै	नेत्रीभ्याम्	नेत्रीभ्यः
नेत्र्याः	नेत्रीभ्याम्	नेत्रीभ्यः
नेत्र्याः	नेत्र्योः	नेत्रीणाम्
नेत्र्याम्	नेत्र्योः	नेत्रीषु
नेत्रि	नेत्र्यौ	नेत्र्यः

The feminine of an agent noun gets an -ī affix, so it is declined like **नदी** . Apart from agent nouns, there really aren't other -ṛ adjectives to worry about.

Similarly, except for a few rare exceptions (Lesson 18), there aren't any m. nouns that end in -ā (just f.), and no f. nouns that end in -a. For optional declensions of n. -i/u/ṛ stems and f. -u stems see Deshpande.