

The Best Person

The best person to negotiate the deal will be available next week.

“The best person to negotiate the deal” becomes a block – the means of determining the “best” person.

He wanted the best person to negotiate the deal

This could be understood as

He wanted (the best person to negotiate the deal) to negotiate the deal.

We can distance “best” from the criterion.

He wanted the best person to be used in negotiating the deal.

He wanted the most expensive material to be used.

He was the best person we had to negotiate the deal.

Need to terminate the relative pronoun clause.

The adjective needs to become more active in determining the shape of the sentence.

He was the only person we had to negotiate the deal.

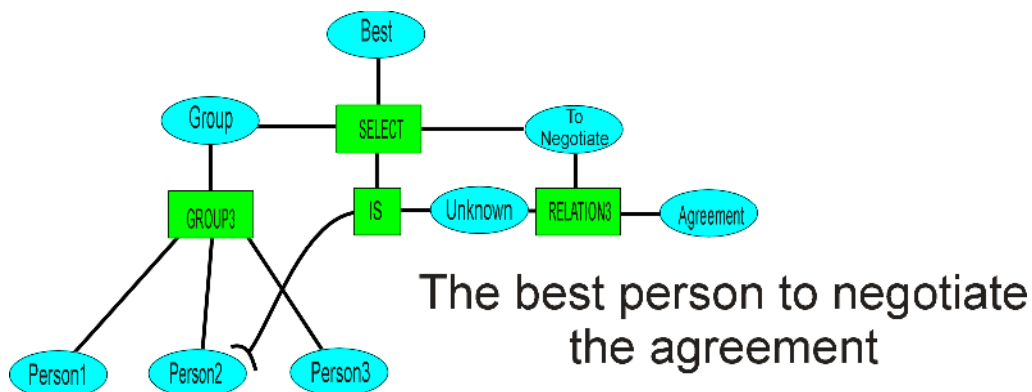
Not just adjectives.

He was the best person we had at negotiating deals.

Similar effect with preposition/participial.

He is one of the few people we have who are capable of negotiating this deal.

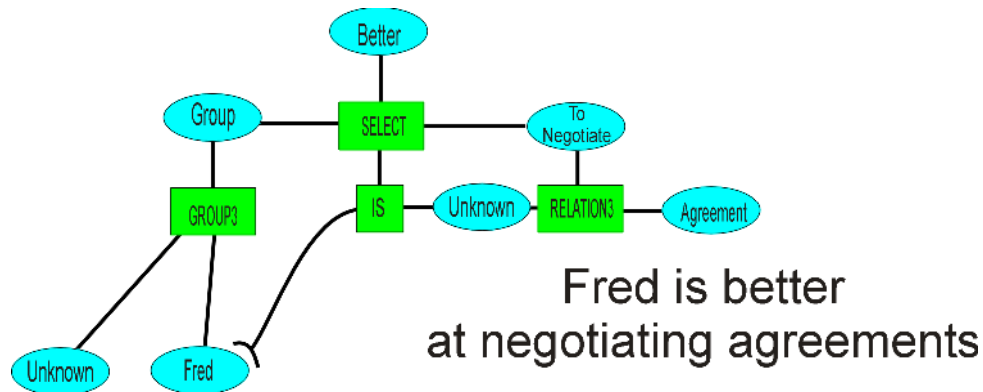
Member of a group.



The Better Person

Fred is better than Joe at negotiating agreements.

Fred is better at negotiating agreements than Joe.



Fred is better at negotiating agreements, while Joe is better at executing them.

ComparativeSuperlativePhrase

The best person

The better person

The most effective person

The right person

The ideal person

The best person to negotiate

The best person running for office – of the people running for office, the best person is ...

The best person litigating today

The best person at negotiating the deal

He wanted a famous person (to be) running the company

He wanted the man in the blue shirt (to be) running the company

A famous person running the company would be good for our image

A famous person running the company would have little trouble making new contacts.

He wants the person running the company arrested.

He wants the name of the person running the company.

He wants a person with influence running the company.

Decide on the connections for the participial or infinitive – collapse chain where appropriate

He wants a person running the company whom he can trust. (accept “who”)