

Lesson title: Mastering Adverbs: Enhancing Your Language Skills

Lesson Objectives:

1. Understand the function of adverbs in English grammar.
2. Identify different types of adverbs and their respective functions.
3. Recognize the role of adverbs in modifying verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.
4. Apply knowledge of adverbs to enhance writing and communication skills.

I. Introduction to Adverbs:

An adverb is a word that modifies or describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. It provides additional information about how, when, where, or to what extent an action is performed. Adverbs are versatile parts of speech that add depth and detail to sentences, helping to convey nuances of meaning.

II. General Use of Adverbs:

Adverbs can be used to modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. They answer questions such as how, when, where, why, and to what extent. For instance:

- How? (manner): She danced gracefully.
- When? (time): He arrived early.
- Where? (place): They searched everywhere.
- Why? (reason): She left because she was tired.
- To what extent? (degree): He was extremely happy.

Now, let's explore the different types of adverbs

III. Types of Adverbs:

1. Adverbs of Manner:

Adverbs of manner describe how an action is performed.

Examples:

- She sings beautifully.
- He speaks loudly.
- They ran quickly.

2. Adverbs of Place:

Adverbs of place indicate where an action takes place.

Examples:

- They looked everywhere.
- He lives nearby.

3. Adverbs of Time:

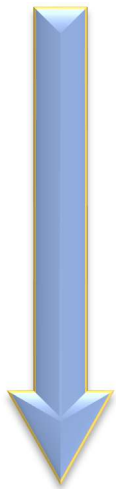
Adverbs of time indicate when an action occurs.

Examples:

- She arrived yesterday.
- They will leave soon.
- We go to the gym daily.

4. Adverbs of Frequency:

Adverbs of frequency indicate how often an action occurs.



1. Always - Indicates that the action occurs every time or on every occasion.
2. Usually - Suggests that the action happens most of the time or in the majority of cases.
3. Often - Implies frequent occurrence, but not as consistently as "usually."
4. Sometimes - Denotes occurrences that happen occasionally or at intervals.
5. Occasionally - Suggests infrequent but not rare events.
6. Seldom - Indicates rare occurrences, happening only occasionally.
7. Rarely - Implies that the action happens very infrequently.
8. Hardly ever - Suggests almost never, with very rare instances.
9. Never - Indicates that the action does not occur at all.

Examples:

- She always wakes up early.
- He rarely watches television.
- They sometimes visit their grandparents.

5. Adverbs of Degree (intensifiers):

Adverbs of degree modify adjectives, verbs, or other adverbs to indicate the extent or degree of the action.

Examples:

- She is very happy.
- He runs quite fast.
- They were too tired to continue.

In English grammar, adverbs of degree generally express the extent, intensity, or degree of an action, adjective, or another adverb. While they can be categorized in various ways depending on the linguistic framework, it's not necessarily standard to categorize them into three distinct types as "intensifiers," "modifiers," and "mitigators" universally.

- **Intensifiers:** These adverbs amplify or strengthen the meaning of the word they modify, often indicating a high degree or intensity. Examples include "very," "extremely," "absolutely," "totally," etc. They enhance the emphasis of the modified word.

Example: She is very intelligent.

- **Modifiers:** These adverbs alter or adjust the intensity of the word they modify, typically to a lesser degree than intensifiers. They can indicate a moderate or intermediate level. Examples include "quite," "rather," "fairly," "somewhat," etc.

Example: The movie was quite enjoyable.

- **Mitigators:** These adverbs reduce or diminish the intensity of the modified word, often softening its impact. They indicate a lower degree or intensity. Examples include "slightly," "somewhat," "a little," "partially," etc.

Example: He was slightly disappointed with the result.

6. Adverbs of Certainty:

Adverbs of certainty indicate the speaker's level of certainty or uncertainty about an action.

High Certainty	Moderate Certainty	Low Certainty
Definitely	Likely	Perhaps
Certainly	Probably	Possibly
Surely	Presumably	Maybe
Undoubtedly	Generally	Conceivably
Absolutely	Typically	Doubtfully
Positively	Normally	Questionably
Clearly		Doubtlessly
Obviously		
Unquestionably		
Without a doubt		

Examples:

- She is definitely coming to the party.
- He will probably be late.
- They may arrive early.

7. Interrogative Adverbs:

Interrogative adverbs are used to ask questions about various aspects such as time, place, manner, or reason.

Examples:

- When did they leave?
- Where are you going?
- Why did she cry?

8. **Relative Adverbs:**

Relative adverbs modify a verb, adjective, or adverb in the subordinate clause and connect it to the main clause. They include words like "where," "when," and "why."

Example:

- This is the place where we met.
- I don't know the reason why he left.

9. **Sequence Adverbs:**

Sequence adverbs describe the order in which actions occur within a sentence or between sentences. They help connect clauses or sentences and organize the chronological sequence of events. Common sequence adverbs include "first," "next," "then," and "finally."

- For example, in the sentence, "First, I need to wash the dishes, and then I can start cooking breakfast," the adverb "first" indicates the initial action, while "then" signifies the subsequent action.

10 **Sentence Adverbs:**

Sentence adverbs modify the entire sentence or a clause, expressing the speaker's attitude or feelings towards the content. These adverbs provide commentary on the information presented in the sentence.

- Doubt/Probability:** perhaps, maybe
- Affirmation:** indeed
- Negation:** not, never
- Agreement:** indeed, absolutely
- Disagreement:** unfortunately, sadly
- Regret:** unfortunately, sadly, regrettably
- Optimism:** hopefully, ideally
- Pessimism:** unfortunately, sadly
- Surprise:** surprisingly, unexpectedly
- Approval:** fortunately, luckily
- Disapproval:** unfortunately, sadly
- Honesty/Directness:** frankly, bluntly, honestly, Straightforwardly

- Examples of sentence adverbs include "fortunately," "unfortunately," "hopefully," and "frankly." For instance, in the sentence, "Fortunately, the weather cleared up for our picnic," the adverb "fortunately" expresses a positive sentiment about the weather condition.

IV. **Unlocking the Secrets of Adverb Formation:**

1. **Regular Adverbs:** Many adverbs are formed by adding the suffix "-ly" to adjectives:

- Adjective: quick -> Adverb: quickly
- Adjective: careful -> Adverb: carefully
- Adjective: beautiful -> Adverb: beautifully

2. **Irregular Adverbs:** Some adverbs have the same form as their corresponding adjectives:

- Adjective/Adverb: fast (e.g., "He runs fast.")
- Adjective/Adverb: hard (e.g., "He works hard.")
- Adjective/Adverb: late (e.g., "She arrived late.")

3. **Irregular Forms:** Certain adverbs have irregular forms that don't follow the "-ly" pattern:

{When a word can function both as an adjective and an adverb, don't typically add "-ly" to form the adverbial form}

- Adjective: good -> Adverb: well (e.g., "She plays the piano well.")
- Adjective: fast -> Adverb: fast (e.g., "He drove fast.")
- Adjective: hard -> Adverb: hard (e.g., "He works hard.")

Placement of Adverbs in a Sentence:

- ✚ Adverbs often appear before the main verb.
- ✚ Adverbs can follow the main verb, especially when the main verb is a form of "to be".
- ✚ Some adverbs can be placed at the beginning or end of a sentence for emphasis or stylistic reasons.
- ✚ In sentences with auxiliary verbs, adverbs are often placed between the auxiliary verb and the main verb.

POSITION OF ADVERBS

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INITIAL POSITION

comment adverbs

- ➔ Luckily , nobody got hurt.
- ➔ Unfortunately , we arrived late

sometimes, usually, normally (Mid position more common)

- ➔ Sometimes he can be stubborn.
- ➔ Usually we eat out at the weekend.

adverbs of time (Final position more common)

- ➔ Just before the wedding , they split up.

adverbs of manner (only in literary style)

- ➔ Carefully , she opened the box.

MID POSITION

adverbs of manner (literary style or with passive verbs)

- ➔ She carefully opened the box.
- ➔ They were seriously injured.

adverbs of frequency

- ➔ I usually work on Saturdays.
- ➔ She's hardly ever late for class.

most other adverbs

- ➔ We had just met when he died.
- ➔ I've already seen this film.

Before the main verb.
After 'be' if 'be' is the main verb.
After the first auxiliary verb when there is one or more auxiliaries.

FINAL POSITION

adverbs of manner

- ➔ She always speaks very quickly .
- ➔ She can dance salsa marvellously .

adverbs of place

- ➔ They met by chance in England .
- ➔ I haven't seen him anywhere .

adverbs of time

- ➔ It rained quite heavily yesterday .
- ➔ They'll be here soon .

Use manner + place + time in this order: They met **by chance** **in England** **in 2012** .

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Summary

Understanding the various types of adverbs and their functions will enable you to express yourself more precisely and effectively in both spoken and written English. Practice using adverbs in different contexts to improve your language skills.

Activities:

1} Put brackets [] around the adverb in each of the following sentences. Write how if the adverbs tell how, when if the adverbs tells when, or where if the adverb tell where the action takes place.

1. Tameesha thought her prom gown draped beautifully.
2. She wanted to wear it immediately.
3. Her grandmother said, "You cannot wear it now!"
4. So Tameesha put the gown away.
5. She carefully hung it on a padded hanger in her closet.

2} Put brackets around the adverb in each of the following sentences. On the line provided, write the word the adverb modifies.

6. Tameesha's confidence in her designs grew steadily.
7. She quite readily purchased difficult patterns.

8. Tameesha finally realized she did not need to buy patterns.
9. She often sketched her own designs.
10. Tameesha finally thought of herself as a classic designer.