

# The Adverb

## A-Form :

1-In most cases,an adverb is formed by adding ‘-ly’ to an adjective : quick→quickly

→If the adjective ends in ‘y’, replace the y with ‘i’ and add ‘ly’ : easy→easily

→If the adjective ends in –able, or –le, replace the –e with ‘-y’ : terrible→terribly

→If the adjective ends in –‘ic’, add ‘-ally’ : basic→basically

2-Some adverbs have the same form as the adjective : early, fast, hard, high, late, near, straight, wrong, close, daily, fair, far, free, lively, long, lovely, low, right, wide.

## B-Function

→Adverbs modify, or tell us more about other words, usually verbs : The bus moved slowly.

→Sometimes they tell us more about adjectives :The food was absolutely delicious.

→They can also modify other adverbs :She played the violin extremely well.

## C-Kinds of Adverbs

**1-Adverbs of Manner** : tell us how something happens. They are usually placed after the main verb or after the object : She spoke softly / He plays the flute beautifully.

\*-Sometimes an adverb of manner is placed before a verb +objectto add emphasis :

He gently woke the sleeping woman.

\*\*--However, adverbs should always come after intransitive verbs : The town grew quickly.

He waited patiently.

\*\*\*-Also, these common adverbs are almost always placed after the verb : well, badly, hard and fast.

**2-Adverbs of Place** : tell us where something happens. They are usually placed after the main verb or after the object : I looked everywhere/ I’m going home/ Come in.

They built a house nearby/ she took the child outside.

\*Here and there

→with verbs of movement, here means towards or with the speaker : come here / It’s in here

→There means away from, or not with the speaker : put it there/ It’s in there .

**\*\*Here and there** are placed at the beginning of the sentence in exclamations or when emphasis is needed. They are followed by the verb if the subject is a noun :Here comes the bus. Or by a pronoun if this is the subject ( it, she, he etc.) : Here it is/ There she goes !

Note that most common adverbs of place also function as prepositions : about, across, along, around, behind, by, down, in, off, on, over, round, through, under, up.

Other adverbs of place :ending in –‘wards’, expressing movement in a particular direction : backwards, forwards, downwards, upwards, inwards, outwards, northwards, southwards, eastwards, westwards, homewards, onwards. Ex : The ship sailed westwards.

\*Expressing both movement and location : ahead, abroad, overseas, uphill, downhill, sideways, indoors, outdoors→He went abroad/ He lived and worked abroad.

**3-Adverbs of Time** : Tell us when an action happened, but also for how long, and how often.

When :today, yesterday, later, now, last year.

For how long : all day, not long, for a while, since last year.

How often : sometimes, frequently, never, often, yearly.

**‘When’ adverbs** are usually placed at the end of the sentence : We went to the theatre yesterday. But sometimes they are put in other positions to give a different emphasis :

\*Later the children played football.

\*\*The children later played football.

\*\*\*The children played football later.

**‘For how long’ adverbs** are usually placed at the end of the sentence : She stayed in her room all day.My mother lived in USA for a year.

**‘How often’ adverbs expressing the frequency of an action** are usually placed before the main verb but after auxiliary verbs (such as be, have, may, must) : He never drinks milk /I have never forgotten my first holiday.

**‘How often’ adverbs expressing the exact number of times an action happens** are usually placed at the end of the sentence :This magazine is published monthly/ He visits his mother once a week.

**‘yet’** is used in questions and in negative sentences, and is placed at the end of the sentence or after not : Haven’t you finished yet ? No, not yet.

**‘Still’** expresses continuity ; it is used in positive sentences and questions, and is placed before the main verb and after auxiliary verbs (such as be, have, might, will) :She is still waiting/Do you still work for the BBC ?

**Order of Adverbs of time 1 (how long), 2 (how often), 3 (when).**

**4-Adverbs of certainty** : express how certain or sure we feel about an action or event : certainly, definitely, probably, undoubtedly, surely.

Adverbs of certainty go before the main verb but after the verb to be, and between the auxiliary and the main verb : He definitely left the house this morning/ He is probably in the house/ He has certainly forgotten the meeting.

\*Sometimes these adverbs can be placed at the beginning of the sentence :

Undoubtedly, Winston Churchill was a great politician.

**5-Adverbs of Degree** : tell us about the intensity or degree of an action, an adjective or another adverb : almost, nearly, quite, just, too, enough, hardly, scarcely, completely, very, extremely.

Adverbs of degrees are usually placed :

→before the adjective or adverb they are modifying : The water was extremely cold.

→before the main verb : He has almost finished.

**Enough, very, too**

**Enough** as an adverb meaning to the necessary degree goes after adjectives and adverbs :

Is your coffee hot enough ? : He didn't work hard enough.

**Too** as an adverb meaning more than is necessary or useful goes before adjectives and adverbs : This coffee is too hot/ He works too hard.

**Very** goes before an adverb or adjective to make it stronger : the girl was very smart/ He worked very quickly.

some adverbs can cause an inversion. The order is reversed and the verb goes before the subject :

I have never seen such courage→

She rarely left the house→

**6-Interrogative Adverbs** : why, where, how, when ; they are usually placed at the beginning of a question →How did you make this sauce ? How tall are you ? How much are these tomatoes ? How quickly can you read this ?

**7-Relative Adverbs** can be used to join sentences or clauses. They replace the more formal structure of preposition+ which in a relative clause : where, when, why : →There was a very hot summer the year when he was born.→Tell me why you were late home.

**8-Viewpoint and Commentating Adverbs**

