

LEARNING ABOUT ADVERBS

1

What are adverbs?

Verbs tell us about actions

Billy walks

Billy runs

Billy jumps

2

Adverbs **add** something to verbs. They give us additional information about the verb. Like

Billy walks happily

Billy walks sadly

3

A lot of adverbs end in the letters 'ly'.

Quickly (*Pic of innocent looking face*)

Cheerfully (*Pic of happy face*)

Nastily (*Pic of horrible face*)

HINT: If the adjective ends in 'y', the adverb converts this to 'i' before adding the 'ly' ending (eg nasty - nastily) to avoid the problem of two letters with the same sound .

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You can use lots of adjectives to describe a single noun.

Eg I hate **horrible, nasty, hairy, dirty, disgusting** spiders!

Pic of spiders

But with adverbs, it is normal to use just one per verb.

She said it very **nastily**. (*Pic of horrible face*)

I agreed **cheerfully**. (*Pic of happy face*)

HINT: While the adjective(s) always goes **before the noun**, the **adverb** normally **goes after the verb**.

5

TYPES OF ADVERB

There are three main types of adverb.

Adverbs of manner

These tell us **how** the action is performed. They are the most common of all.

He was fighting **fiercely**. (*Pic of boy in kung fu stance*)

She is talking **angrily**. (*Pic of angry face*)

HINT: Most end in 'ly'. But there are a few very old adverbs that are 'irregular' – like well, fast, hard, very - which do not end in 'ly'. You know they are adverbs because they come after the verb and tell you about it (She sang well; They ran fast; He tried very hard).

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Adverbs of time

These tell us **when** the action is performed.

Billy is here **now**. (*Pic of Billy in class*)

Billy will be dressed **soon**. (*Pic of Billy getting dressed*)

Billy is **still** jumping. (*Pic of Billy jumping*)

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Other adverbs of time include:

afterwards
always
briefly
finally
forever
later
last
never
next
now
occasionally

often
rarely
regularly
shortly
sometimes
temporarily
today
yesterday

8

Adverbs of place

These tell us **where** the action is performed.

Billy is **here**. (*Pic of Billy in class*)

Billy is **there**. (*Pic of Billy running*)

He is **inside**. (*Pic of kid watching TV*)

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Other adverbs of place include:

abroad
ahead
anywhere
away
backwards
down
everywhere
forwards
inside
locally
near
onwards
up
sideways
somewhere
underground
upstairs

ADVERBS OF COMPARISON

Often you want to compare adverbs. When the adverb ends in 'ly', you use the words **more** in front of the **comparative** form and **most** in front of the **superlative** form.

Billy walked **quickly**.
 Billy walked **more quickly**. Comparative
 Billy walked **most quickly**. Superlative

Mary-Jane smiled **happily**.
 Mary-Jane smiled **more happily**. Comparative
 Mary-Jane smiled **most happily**. Superlative

Pics to illustrate

If the adverb ends in something other than 'ly', the same rule is used as for adjectives. Add 'er' for the comparative. Add 'est' for the superlative.

hard	harder	hardest
high	higher	highest

Pic of kung fu fight to illustrate

A small number of adverbs are irregular:

well	better	best
badly	worse	worst
less	lesser	least