

Adverbs

Read these sentences:

- He writes *badly*.
- He spends his money *foolishly*.
- He hit the ball *hard*.

We know that words which *add* something to the meaning of a *verb* are called **adverbs**.

Kinds of Adverbs:

Adverbs of Manner	-	how?
Adverbs of Place	-	where?
Adverbs of Time	-	when?
Adverbs of Frequency	-	how often?
Interrogative Adverbs	-	ask questions
Adverbs of Degree	-	to what extent?

ADVERBS OF MANNER

What do you notice about the adverbs in these sentences? They all show *how* the action is done.

- *How* does he write? – Badly.
- *How* does he spend his money? – Foolishly.
- *How* did he hit the ball? – Hard.



Definition

Adverbs that show the *manner* in which some action is done are called **adverbs of manner**.

Adverbs of manner answer the question **How?**

Exercise 1

Underline the *adverbs of manner* in the following sentences, and name the verb with which each is used.

1. She writes well.
2. He loved her truly.
3. He spoke quietly.
4. You should not do so.
5. The soldiers fought bravely.
6. The boy was walking fast.
7. They were talking loudly.
8. He could not speak distinctly.

writes
loved
spoke
should (not) do
fought
was walking
were talking
could not speak

ADVERBS OF PLACE

Read these sentences:

- The train stops *here*.
- We live *there*.
- My father has gone *out*.
- The rocket went *up*.

Each of the adverbs in the above sentences shows *where* the action is done.

Adverbs of place answer the question *Where?*

Exercise 2

Underline the *adverbs of place* in the following sentences.

1. He has come back.
2. The little lamb followed Mary everywhere.
3. Let us go out.
4. The servant has gone upstairs.
5. The peon is standing outside.
6. We sat inside.
7. Come in and sit down.
8. Work hard or you'll be kept in.

ADVERBS OF TIME/FREQUENCY

Read these sentences:

- The holidays will begin *tomorrow*.
- I shall return *soon*.
- She goes to school *every day*.
- Rama writes to me *often*.



Definition

Adverbs that show *where* some action is done are called **adverbs of place**.

Each of the adverbs in the above sentences shows *when* or *how often* the action is done.

Adverbs of time answer the question *When?* Adverbs of frequency answer *How often?*



Definition

Adverbs that show *when* some action is done are called adverbs of time.

Exercise 3

Underline the *adverbs of time* in the following sentences, and circle the *adverbs of frequency*.

1. You may go now.
2. The end soon came.
3. I hurt my knee yesterday.
4. Wasted time never returns.
5. He is going to Chennai shortly.
6. I shall visit you every year.
7. Lately he has become lazy.
8. Often hear the cuckoo sing.
9. I shall get a letter tomorrow.
10. I get up early every day.
11. Formerly we lived in Kolkata.
12. That day he arrived late.

ADVERBS OF DEGREE

Read these sentences:

- The rose is *very* beautiful.
- His face was *nearly* black.
- The man was *almost* angry.

The word *very* is used with the adjective *beautiful*, and tells how (or to what degree) *beautiful* the rose is.

The word *nearly* is used with the adjective *black*, and tells how *black* his face was.

The word *almost* is used with the adjective *angry*, and tells how *angry* the man was. These are Adverbs of degree.

Read these sentences:

- The boy runs *very* quickly.
- He speaks *rather* slowly.
- She drove *most* carefully.

The word *very* is used with the adverb *quickly*, and tells how *quickly* the boy runs.

The word *rather* is used with the adverb *slowly*, and tells how *slowly* he speaks.

The word *most* is used with the adverb *carefully*, and tells how carefully she drove.



Definition

The words *very*, *nearly*, *almost*, *rather* and *most* which are thus used with adjectives and adverbs to add something to their meaning, are called adverbs of degree.

We may now say that an Adverb is a word used with a verb, or an adjective, or another adverb to add something to its meaning.

Exercise 4

Underline the *adverbs of degree* in the following sentences.

1. He spoke very kindly to them.
2. The day passed very pleasantly.
3. He writes extremely well.
4. Please work less noisily.
5. He writes quite beautifully.
6. We missed you so much.
7. He is very kind to his servant.
8. These mangoes are almost ripe.
9. The cup is nearly full.
10. We spent a very pleasant day.
11. He is somewhat lazy.
12. This sum is quite easy.

INTERROGATIVE ADVERBS

Read these sentences:

- *When* did you come? •
- *How* did you do it? • *Why* are you late?

Where is Abdul?

✓ In the above sentences the words *when*, *where*, *how*, *why* are adverbs which are used in *asking questions*. These are therefore called *interrogative adverbs*.

Exercise 5

Underline the *adverbs* in the following sentences, state their kinds and name the words they modify.

1. Slowly and sadly we laid him down.
2. Things are not better at present.
3. The weather is delightfully cool.
4. He is old enough to know better.
5. How brightly the moon shines !
6. How did you manage it?
7. He went quickly from the house but soon returned there.
8. I shall be there presently.

Degrees of comparison

✓ Some adverbs, like adjectives, have three degrees of comparison. Such adverbs are generally compared like adjectives.

If the adverb is of one syllable, we form the comparative by adding *-er*, and the superlative by adding *-est* to the Positive; as,

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
fast	faster	fastest
soon	sooner	soonest
near	nearer	nearest



Exercise 5

1. Slowly – manner, sadly – manner, down – place, modifies the word *laid*.
2. Better – manner, modifies the word *are*.
3. Delightfully – degree, modifies the word *cool*.
4. Enough – degree, better – manner, modifies the words *old* and *know*.
5. How – degree, modifies the word *brightly*.
6. How – interrogative, modifies the words *did manage*.
7. Quickly – manner, soon – time, there – place, modifies the words *went, returned, returned*.
8. There – place, presently – time, modifies the words *shall be*.