

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT & COMMERCE

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

SEMESTER – II

E- MATERIAL

UNIT-IV

Grammar: **ADVERBS**

Adverbs are words that are used in sentences to describe or change the meaning of a Verb or Adjective or even another Adverb. They add a description to the sentence to make it more detailed and interesting. For example:

- He walked **slowly** across the square.
Here, one can see that the Adverb ‘slowly’ is describing the Verb ‘walk’ by telling that the person was walking slowly.

There are five types of adverbs you should familiarize yourself with: adverbs of **degree**, **frequency**, **manner**, **place**, and **time**.

Adverbs of degree tell us more about the intensity of the verb in the sentence, in other words, they describe how much, or to what degree. They can be categorized as low degree (e.g. somewhat), medium degree (e.g. fairly), and high degree (e.g. extremely). Adverbs of degree can also modify adjectives and other adverbs and are placed before the word they modify. Popular adverbs of degree include:

- almost
- enough
- hardly
- just
- nearly
- quite
- simply
- so
- too

Let's look at some sample sentences:

- This short essay is **hardly** sufficient.

- It's **simply** not enough.
- I'm **so** excited to move to Ireland.

Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency let us know how often the verb occurs. Therefore they mostly modify verbs. These adverbs tend to appear right before the main verb in the sentence. Popular adverbs in this category include:

- again
- always
- never
- normally
- rarely
- seldom
- sometimes
- usually

Here they are in action:

- I **always** read a book before bed.
- Does he **normally** walk his dog at this time?
- She **usually** shops at the Korean market in town.

Adverbs of Manner

Adverbs of manner tell us how, or in what manner, something was carried out. They mostly modify verbs and can often be found at the end of a clause. This category comprises the most common adverbs - the ones that end in -ly. Here are some examples of adverbs of manner:

- beautifully
- generously
- happily
- neatly
- patiently
- softly
- quickly
- well

And here are some example sentences:

- He trimmed the white roses **neatly**.

- I combed my dog's fur **carefully** because it had lots of tangles.
- There's no reason why you can't discuss the topic with me **calmly**.

Adverbs of Place

Adverbs of place tell us more about where the verb took place. These tend to pop up after the main verb or direct object of the sentence. Here are some common adverbs of place:

- above
- below
- everywhere
- here
- in
- inside
- into
- nowhere
- out
- outside
- there

Let's take a look at them in action:

- In Ireland, there are thatched-roof cottages **everywhere**.
- Clearly, there aren't any leprechauns **here**.
- I was so beguiled, I drove **into** a ditch.

Adverbs of Time

Adverbs of time detail when the verb took place. We usually see these kinds of adverbs placed at the beginning or end of a sentence. Adverbs of time include:

- annually
- daily
- monthly
- recently
- tomorrow
- weekly
- yearly
- yesterday

Here they are at work:

- **Lately**, you've been rude to everyone around.
- They **recently** relocated to Santa Fe.
- The morning newspaper arrives **daily**.

Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. They can add to or change the meaning of a word. A great way to spot adverbs is to look for words that end in -ly.

Let's take a look at a few examples:

- **Abruptly**: I thought the movie ended **abruptly**.
- **Beautifully**: The **beautifully** painted landscape is a wonderful addition to my living room decor.
- **Delicately**: Grandma's crystal vase is a priceless antique that must be handled **delicately**.
- **Delightfully**: Her outfit showcased her **delightfully** quirky personality.
- **Firmly**: The teacher **firmly** disciplined the students for their misbehavior.
- **Lightly**: She **lightly** dusted the brownies with a layer of powdered sugar before serving.
- **Truthfully**: She **truthfully** answered the police officer's questions.
- **Quickly**: **Quickly** finish the grocery shopping so we can get to the party in time.
- **Wearily**: At the end of a long day, she **wearily** headed to bed.
- **Willfully**: I sent my son to bed early for **willfully** refusing to eat his vegetables.

Adverbs are part of a category of descriptive language because they describe how something was done. For example:

- **Briskly**: Kristen **briskly** walked to the library, eager to complete her homework.
- **Brutally**: It was **brutally** clear he was not interested in hearing my opinion.
- **Cheerfully**: April **cheerfully** greeted Mark each morning.
- **Expertly**: Adam **expertly** maneuvered the components of the machine into their proper positions.
- **Randomly**: I love to **randomly** share interesting trivia with my friends and family.
- **Sloppily**: He writes **sloppily**, but insists his ideas are more important than having perfect penmanship.
- **Uneasily**: Jemma sighed **uneasily**, knowing that the dark sky was a sign of the impending storm.
- **Weirdly**: She dances **weirdly**, but her quirky personality is what I love the most.
- **Wholeheartedly**: I **wholeheartedly** believe education is the key to a better future.
- **Wickedly**: "I don't think you want to know the whole story," he said **wickedly**.

Some adverbs describe the location of an action. Examples of adverbs like this would include:

- **Downstairs**: The public library often holds meetings **downstairs**.
- **Everywhere**: Jack looked **everywhere** for his missing keys.
- **Here**: She will plant her garden **here**.
- **In**: We stayed **in** to watch a movie instead of attending the party.
- **Inside**: When it's hot and humid, Anna likes to read **inside**.
- **Outside**: The children love to play **outside**.
- **Somewhere**: I want to go fishing **somewhere** warm and sunny.
- **There**: We went to Minnesota for my cousin's wedding and stayed **there** for three nights.

- **Underground:** The gopher began burrowing **underground**.
- **Upstairs:** I went **upstairs** to see my grandma who was on bed rest.

Examples of adverbs that describe when an action occurred include:

- **Early:** She arrived **early** for the meeting.
- **First:** When I bake, I make cookies **first**.
- **Last:** When I clean, I do laundry **last**.
- **Later:** I will stop by **later** to see how you are doing.
- **Never:** He **never** considers himself great.
- **Now:** The movie is starting **now**.
- **Regularly:** Writing **regularly** in my journal is soothing.
- **Today:** I have many things to accomplish **today**.
- **Tomorrow:** **Tomorrow**, we are going to the movies.
- **Yesterday:** She came over for a visit **yesterday**.

Adverbs also describe the extent to which something was done, including:

- **Almost:** I **almost** stopped at McDonald's for lunch, but I was running late.
- **Also:** A talented singer, Jamie **also** enjoys playing the saxophone.
- **Enough:** Daniel is finally tall **enough** to ride the roller coaster.
- **Only:** I **only** take the bus to work on Mondays.
- **Not:** He is **not** attending regularly.
- **Quite:** I was **quite** pleased to see my son's progress in school this year.
- **Rather:** I am **rather** tired after spending the day at the beach.
- **So:** I am **so** hungry, I could eat a horse.
- **Too:** It is **too** loud in here for me to concentrate.
- **Very:** Baby Emily was **very** tired after missing her afternoon nap.

Another function of adverbs is to intensify the meaning of the word it's modifying. It does this by putting more or less emphasis on the word, amplifying the meaning of the word, or toning down the feeling of the word.

Here are some sentences with the emphasizing adverb in bold:

- He **literally** wrecked his car.
- I am certain of the facts, **for sure**.
- You **simply** don't understand.
- I **really** don't care what you think.

Sentences that amplify would be like:

- She **completely** rejected his proposal.
- I **heartily** endorsed the new restaurant.
- He **totally** gets me.
- I **absolutely** refuse to stay here any longer.

Adverbs and adverb phrases that tone down the feeling or mood include:

- You can improve on this **to some extent**.
- The boss **almost** quit his job after that.
- I **somewhat** understand what you are saying.
- She **mildly** disapproved of his actions.

EXERCISE-I

Underline the adverbs in the following sentences and state their kind.

1. I went to the market in the morning.
2. The dog sat lazily in the shade of the tree.
3. The man grumbled loudly while cleaning the table.
4. I often visit my grandparents.
5. It is extremely hot today.
6. Please wait patiently.
7. The technician fixed the problem easily.
8. They serve hot pan cakes there.
9. I am waiting here for my daughter.
10. He laughed merrily.
11. We will leave today.
12. She is standing outside.

Answers

1. I went to the market in the morning. (Adverb of time)
2. The dog sat lazily in the shade of the tree. (Adverb of manner)
3. The man grumbled loudly while cleaning the table. (Adverb of manner)
4. I often visit my grandparents. (Adverb of frequency)
5. It is extremely hot today. (Adverb of degree)

6. Please wait patiently. (Adverb of manner)
7. The technician fixed the problem easily. (Adverb of manner)
8. They serve hot pan cakes there. (Adverb of place)
9. I am waiting here for my daughter. (Adverb of place)
10. He laughed merrily. (Adverb of manner)
11. We will leave today. (Adverb of time)
12. She is standing outside. (Adverb of place)

EXERCISE-II

Find the adjective in the first sentence and fill the gap with the adverb.

1. Joanne is happy. She smiles -----
2. The boy is loud. He shouts -----
3. Her English is fluent. She speaks English -----
4. Our mum was angry. She spoke to us -----
5. My neighbor is a careless driver. He drives -----
6. The painter is awful. He paints -----
7. Jim is a wonderful piano player. He plays the piano -----
8. This girl is very quiet. She often sneaks out of the house -----
9. She is a good dancer. She dances really -----
10. This exercise is simple. You -----have to put one word in each space.

Answers: 1. Happily 2. Loudly 3. Fluently 4. Angrily 5. Carelessly 6. awfully 7. wonderfully
8. Quietly 9. Well 10. Simply

EXERCISE –III

DIRECTIONS for questions 1 - 8: Choose a verb (Box A) + an adverb (Box B) to complete the sentences.

A	come	know	sleep	win
---	------	------	-------	-----

	explain	listen	think	work
B	carefully	clearly	hard	well
	carefully	easily	quickly	well

1. I'm going to tell you something very important, so please _____
2. Ann! I need your help. _____ !
3. They _____. At the end of the day they're always tired.
4. I'm tired this morning. I didn't _____ last night.
5. You're a much better tennis player than me. When we play, you always _____
6. _____ before you answer the question.
7. I've met Alice a few times but I don't _____ her very _____
8. Our teacher isn't very good. Sometimes he doesn't _____ things very _____

DIRECTIONS for questions 9 – 16: Identify the adverb in the following sentences.

9. He is little known outside India.
10. He works hard all day.
11. You can only guess.
12. She sings well enough.
13. He knows me better than you.
14. I came early this morning.
15. Arjun writes better than Rama.
16. Hari writes best of all.

DIRECTIONS for questions 17 – 20: Identify the adverb in the following sentences.

17. He invited me to visit him (often).
18. The train has left (just).
19. He is in time for meals (never).
20. That is not good (enough).

ANSWERS:

1. Listen carefully
2. Come Quickly
3. Work hard
4. Sleep well
5. Win easily
6. Think carefully
7. Know her very well
8. Explain things very clearly
9. Little
10. Hard
11. Only

12. Well
13. Better
14. Early
15. Better
16. Best
17. He often invited me to visit him.
18. The train has just left.
19. He is never in time for meals.
20. That is not good enough.

VOCABULARY

PALINDROMES

A palindrome is a word, phrase, number or sequence of words that reads the same backward as forward. Punctuation and spaces between the words or lettering is allowed. The longest single-word palindrome in the English language, according to the Oxford English Dictionary, is the onomatopoeic 'tattarrattat', coined by James Joyce in *Ulysses* (1922) for a knock on the door.

Examples: Madam, Civic, Test, Radar, Refer, Level, Mom, Dad, Noon, Rotor, Kayak, Malayalam, Racecar etc.

PRONUNCIATION

APPROXIMANTS

Approximant consonant sounds are made by **bringing two articulators close together without them touching** as sound leaves the body. The result is a smooth, vowel-like sound. English pronunciation has 3 approximant phonemes.

/w/: went, quuite, onunce

/r/: road, red

/j/: yawn, fuel, few

/l/: late, palate, welll
