Adverbs

Adverbs of Manner and Degree

Introduction to Adverbs

An adverb is a word that describes a verb, an adjective or another adverb.

For example:

Gini drives carefully.

(The word 'carefully' is an adverb. It is describing the verb 'drives'. It is telling us *how Gini drives*.)

It is a very beautiful painting.

(The word 'very' is an adverb. It is describing the adjective 'beautiful'. It is telling us how beautiful the painting is.)

The team won the match quite easily.

(The word 'easily' is an adverb. It is telling us *how the team won the match*. The word 'quite' is also an adverb. It is describing 'easily'. It is telling us *how easily the team won the match*.)

Adverbs Expressing Manner

These adverbs answer the question 'how?'

Nina read the article carefully.

(Ask the question 'read how?' and you get the answer 'carefully'.)

Gauri has answered the question correctly.

(Ask the question 'has answered how?' and you get the answer 'correctly'.)

The children waited eagerly.

(Ask the question 'waited how?' and you get the answer 'eagerly'.)

I can solve this problem easily.

(Ask the question 'can solve *how*?' and you get the answer 'easily'.)

Rishabh works hard.

(Ask the question 'works how?' and you get the answer 'hard'.)

The new bowler **bowls fast**.

(Ask the question 'bowls how?' and you get the answer 'fast'.)

The new recruit went about his work quietly.

(Ask the question 'went about *how*?' and you get the answer 'quietly'.)

Pick up the phone quickly.

(Ask the question 'pick up how?' and you get the answer 'quickly'.)

Note: An adverb of manner is usually placed after the verb or after the object of the verb.

Adverbs Expressing Degree

These adverbs answer the question 'how much?'

Raju is a **very naughty** boy.

(Ask the question 'how much naughty?' and you get the answer 'very'.)

Your last movie was **pretty nice**.

(Ask the question 'how much nice?' and you get the answer 'pretty'.)

The teacher was quite angry with me.

(Ask the question 'how much angry?' and you get the answer 'quite'.)

That song is **so good**.

(Ask the question 'how much good?' and you get the answer 'so'.)

My work is almost done.

(Ask the question 'how much done?' and you get the answer 'almost'.)

The Indian team is **fully prepared** for the next match.

(Ask the question 'how much prepared?' and you get the answer 'fully'.)

I will be rather busy tomorrow morning.

(Ask the question 'how much busy?' and you get the answer 'rather'.)

Your solution is **partly correct**.

(Ask the question 'how much correct?' and you get the answer 'partly'.)

It was **too hot** yesterday.

(Ask the question 'how much hot?' and you get the answer 'too'.)

Note: An adverb of degree is usually placed before the adjective or adverb it describes.

Adverbs of Time and Frequency

Adverbs Expressing Time

These adverbs answer the question 'when?'

He wants to **see** the report **now**. (Ask the question 'see when?' and you get the answer 'now'.) I will **meet** your principal **tomorrow**. (Ask the question 'meet *when*?' and you get the answer 'tomorrow'.) The two teams **play** each other **tonight**. (Ask the question 'play *when*?' and you get the answer 'tonight'.) She **came** to the party **yesterday**. (Ask the question 'came when?' and you get the answer 'yesterday'.) His exam is today. (Ask the question 'is *when*?' and you get the answer 'today'.) Rajesh left early. (Ask the question 'left *when*?' and you get the answer 'early'.) Vinod comes late. (Ask the question 'comes when?' and you get the answer 'late'.) He goes to the temple daily. (Ask the question 'goes *when*?' and you get the answer 'daily'.)

Note: An adverb of time is usually placed after the verb or after the object of the verb.

Adverbs Expressing Frequency

These adverbs answer the question 'how often?'

The batsman **never fails**.

(Ask the question 'how often fails?' and you get the answer 'never'.)

They usually go for a walk after dinner.

(Ask the question 'how often go?' and you get the answer 'usually'.)

Note: An adverb of frequency is usually placed between the subject and the verb when the verb has only one word.

She has never seen him before.

(Ask the question 'has seen *how often*?' and you get the answer 'never'.)

My teacher has often told me to improve my handwriting.

(Ask the question 'has told *how often*?' and you get the answer 'often'.)

Note: When the verb has more than one word, an adverb of frequency is usually placed after the first word of the verb.

She is never at home between 10 and 11.

(Ask the question 'how often at home between 10 and 11?' and you get the answer 'never'.)

They are always talking.

(Ask the question 'how often talking?' and you get the answer 'always'.)

Note: When the verb is only 'is', 'am', 'are' or 'was', an adverb of frequency is usually placed after the verb.

Adverbs of Place

These adverbs answer the question 'where?'

Hearing the noise, the boy looked up. (Ask the question 'looked *where*?' and you get the answer 'up'.) After fighting the mouse for five hours, the tired cat **fell down**. (Ask the question 'fell *where*?' and you get the answer 'down'.) Naina was standing here. (Ask the question 'was standing *where*?' and you get the answer 'here'.) Why don't you go there? (Ask the question 'go *where*?' and you get the answer 'there'.) My friends **are calling** me **outside**. (Ask the question 'are calling *where*?' and you get the answer 'outside'.) Let us **go inside**. (Ask the question 'go *where*?' and you get the answer 'inside'.) Please **come in**. (Ask the question 'come *where*?' and you get the answer 'in'.) My parents have gone out. (Ask the question 'have gone *where*?' and you get the answer 'out'.)

Let us go on foot. They live near.
(Ask the question 'live where?' and you get the answer 'near'.)
Note: An adverb of place is usually placed after the verb or after the object of the verb.