

# FOUNDATIONAL GRAMMAR

## LESSON SIX: ADVERBS

An adverb is like an adjective, because it also does the job of describing. As you know, an adjective describes a noun or pronoun. **An adverb however, describes a verb, and sometimes an adjective, or an adverb.**

**\*\*Many adverbs end in “ly”\*\***

### Adverbs Modifying Verbs

To help find an adverb, first find the verb. Then say the verb and ask: where, when, how, how often, to what extent?

Eg: Meg ran **quickly**. (ran how?)  
She came **late**. (came when?)  
She reads **everywhere**. (reads where?)  
She reads **thoroughly**. (reads to what extent?)  
She went **frequently**. (went how often?)

As you know, adjectives are often in front of, or before the noun (though not always). Adverbs can be before OR after.

Eg: The dog jumped **easily** over the fence. (jumped how?)  
The criminal **now** jumped over the fence. (jumped when?)  
The children **first** danced in the rain, **then** stomped in the puddles. (danced when? stomped when?)  
The children danced **gracefully** in the sunshine, but **clumsily** in the rain. (danced how? Danced how? Notice there are two adverbs that both modify *danced*.)

As in the last example above, you can have two or more adverbs that modify the same word. But you can also have one adverb that modifies a compound verb.

Eg: The monkeys **happily** chewed and ate the bananas. (chewed how? Ate how? *Happily* modifies both chewed and ate.)

### Adverbs Modifying Adjectives

Adverbs usually modify verbs, but can also modify an adjective.

Eg: She is a **really** great girl. (The adverb *really* modifies the adjective *great*, telling to what extent the girl is great.)

The **very** calm boy walked down the street. (The adverb *very* modifies the adjective *calm*, telling us to what extent the boy is calm. And of course, *calm* modifies the noun *boy*, which is why it is an adjective.)

### Adverbs Modifying Adverbs

Adverbs can also modify other adverbs.

Eg: She skated very **well**. (Here our verb *skated* is modified by the adverb *well*. But our adverb *well* is modified by the adverb *very*. It tells us how well she skated.)

**Note: The word *not* is classified as an adverb; it tells to what extent. (none at all)**

### Adjectives vs. Adverbs

Often the same word can be used for either an adjective or an adverb, but it usually has a different form: **most** adverb forms end in *-ly* (*clearly, happily eagerly*).

Here are a few examples:

<u>Adjectives</u>	<u>Adverbs</u>
quick	quickly
clear	clearly
happy	happily
bad	badly
real	really
slow	slowly

**If you are modifying a noun, it is an adjective and you need to use the adjective form. If you are modifying a verb, adjective, or other adverb, it is an adverb and you need to use the adverb form.**

Eg: The **quick** dog ran away. (*quick* modifies the noun *dog*, so it is an adjective and we use the correct adjective form.)

The dog ran away **quickly**. (*quickly* modifies the verb *ran*, so it is an adverb and we use the correct adverbial form.)

How would you use “deep” as an adjective? How about as an adverb?

How would you use “angry” as an adjective? How about as an adverb?

How would you use “sudden” as an adjective? How about as an adverb?

How would you use “enthusiastic” as an adjective? How about as an adverb?  
How would you use “suspicious” as an adjective? How about as an adverb?