

ADVERBS

An adverb adds more to the meaning of a verb, an adjective or another adverb.

I called you *last night*. (called=verb; last night=adverb)

Your dress is *very* beautiful.

(beautiful=adjective; very=adverb)

The rain stopped *quite suddenly*.

(suddenly=adverb; quite=adverb)

Types of Adverbs

Adverb of Time – This shows *when* an action or something is done or happens. It answers the question “*When?*” It is either placed at the beginning or at the end of a sentence.

Example: I phoned you *yesterday*.

I saw her walking along the river
last week.

Adverb of Place – This shows *where* an action or something is done or happens. It answers the question “*Where?*” It is placed after the verb.

Example: I live *here*.

He fell *down*.

Adverb of Manner – This shows *how* an action or something is done. It answers the question “*How?*” It is usually placed just after the verb.

Example: She sleeps *soundly*.

He drives *quickly*.

Adverb of Degree or Quantity – This answers the questions, “*To what degree?*” or “*How much?*” It is usually placed before the adjective and the adverb.

Example: It is *too* dark for us to see anything.

Last night it rained *very* heavily..

Adverb of Frequency – This answers the question “*How often?*”

Example: He will *never* have finished in time.

We *always* go to school by bus.

Affirmative Adverb (yes) and Adverb of negation (No)

Example: *yes, surely, certainly, indeed, by all means, no, not at all, by no means.*

Interrogative Adverb (Question)

Example: *When? Where? How? Why? How much/often?*

Relative Adverb: *when, where, how, why*

These words are the same in form as Interrogative Adverbs; but they are *not questions*.

Example: The time *when* he arrived.

The scene *where* the accident
occurred.

He knows *how* to do it.

The reason *why* he left.

Comparison of Adverbs

Similar to the comparison of adjectives, adverbs have three degrees of comparison – the *Positive*, the *Comparative* and the *Superlative*. Most adverbs which end in ‘-ly’ form the Comparative with ‘*more*’ and the Superlative with ‘*most*’.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
comfortably	more comfortably	most comfortably
happily	more happily	most happily
kindly	more kindly	most kindly
loudly	more loudly	most loudly
noisily	more noisily	most noisily

Exercise

Choose the most suitable adverb to fill each blank:

(*angrily, enough, never, outside, yesterday, down, last week, often, quickly, rarely, always, just, nearly, online, unusually*)

1. She left _____ for the university where she is doing a degree course.
2. We are standing _____ his house waiting for him.
3. He told us _____ not to walk on the grass.
4. I am not strong _____ to help him carry that box.
5. She will _____ be happy in that job.
6. _____, I saw him walking to the church.
7. My father is _____ late for work.
8. He drove _____ to avoid being late.
9. I _____ play badminton with my sister.
10. This is the place where he fell _____.
11. It took _____ two hours to get here.
12. They were _____ very friendly.
13. He has _____ strong hands.
14. She has _____ completed her degree course.
15. This dictionary went _____ in 2003.

Answers

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|--------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| 1.yesterday | 2.outside | 3.angrily | 4.enough | |
| 5.never | 6.Last week | 7.rarely | 8.quickly | 9.of- |
| ten | 10.down. | 11.nearly | 12.always | |
| 13.unusually | 14.just | 15.online | | |