

ENGLISH

Grammar: Adverbs



Types of Adverbs

What is an Adverb?

An **adverb** is a word which tells us more about

- A **verb**: Amie **eats quickly**.
- An **adverb**: The squirrel nibbled **quite greedily**.
- An **adjective**: I am **very happy**.

In the previous classes, you have been taught the following types of adverbs:

- Adverb of time (which show when)
- Adverb of place (which show where)
- Adverb of manner (which show how)
- Adverb of degree (which show to what extent)
- Adverb of frequency (which show how often)

These are also called **simple adverbs**. Let us look at a few examples of each type.

Simple Adverbs

- **Adverb of Time**
 - I have seen that picture before.
 - The guests arrived late.
 - We shall now begin the competition.
 - She will never return your favour.
- **Adverb of Place**
 - Swipe your card here.
 - Swati looked around but did not find her mother.
 - I am going back to the library.
 - They looked outside when it started raining.

Simple Adverbs

- **Adverb of Manner**
 - The fox looked at Lucy slyly.
 - He painted on the canvas beautifully.
 - The boy wailed loudly as his mother closed the door.
 - The dog drooled at the meat greedily.
- **Adverb of Degree**
 - Chetan was very sad after his classmate left school.
 - Jeevika almost won the race before she fell on the track.
 - This experiment is partly valid.
 - Arushi was too frightened to say anything about the incident.
- **Adverb of Frequency**
 - Joseph is always worried about his son.
 - My dog rarely sleeps all day.
 - Kimaya would sometimes sit near the lake in the evenings.
 - Rajkamal seldom borrows money from anyone.

Adverbs can also be used in question statements.

Interrogative Adverbs

When an adverb is used in asking questions, it is called an interrogative adverb.

- **Where** is the library? (Interrogative adverb of place)
- **How** did you solve this sum? (Interrogative adverb of manner)
- **When** did the glass break? (Interrogative adverb of time)
- **Why** is the room noisy? (Interrogative adverb of reason)
- **How** many candies were sold? (Interrogative adverb of number)
- **How** high is the Qutub Minar? (Interrogative adverb of degree)

Adverbs are also used in relative clauses.

Relative Adverbs

- The relative adverb **where** is used to refer to places and means 'in which' or 'at which'.
 - This is the place where Shakespeare was born.
 - That is the section where the gas chambers were installed.
- The relative adverb **when** is used to refer to time and means 'in which' or 'at which'.
 - Night is the time when the dog starts howling.
 - Do you remember when you last rode a horse?
- The relative adverb **why** is used to refer to a reason and means 'for which'.
 - I don't know why she stole the book.
 - This is the purpose why the room is locked.

Recap

An adverb modifies another adverb, an adjective or a verb.

Adverbs of **Time** answer the question '**when**' in relation to the verb.

Adverbs of **Place** answer the question '**where**' in relation to the verb.

Adverbs of **Manner** answer the question '**how**' in relation to the verb.

Adverbs of **Degree** answer the question '**to what extent**' in relation to an adjective, a verb or an adverb.

Adverbs of **Frequency** answer the question '**how often**' in relation to a verb.

Interrogative adverbs (when, where, how, why) are used for asking questions.

Relative adverbs (when, where, how, why, how often) refer back to the action in the sentence.