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Adverb in English, Types, Position, Uses, Rules, PDF

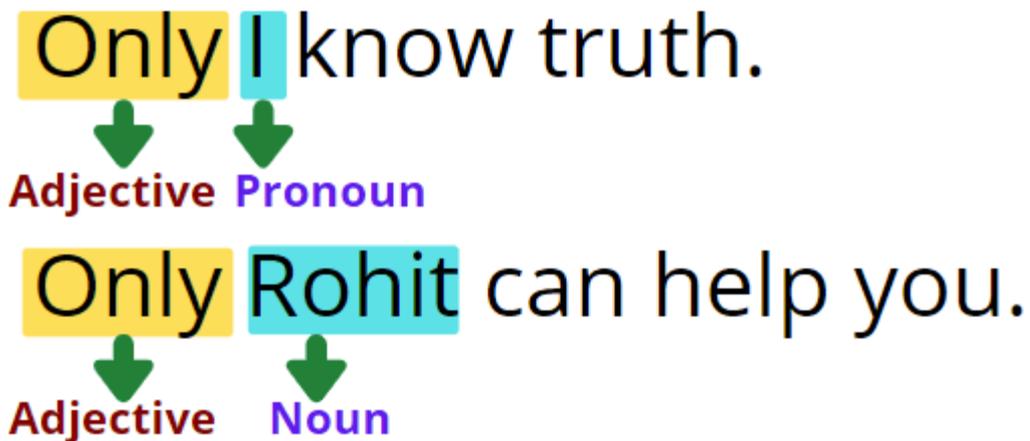
An adverb is a word that qualifies ([adverb definition for kids](#))

Italic words are **verb**, and **bold** words are **adjectives**.

- **A verb**
Example: He **works** **hard**.
- **An adjective**
Example: She is **very** **good**.
- **An adverb**
Example: She works **very** **hard**.
- **A preposition**
Example: The helicopter **hovered** exactly **over** (Prep.) is house.
- **A conjunction**
Example: He likes her **simply** **because** (conj.) she has a clear conscience.
- **A complete sentence**
Example: **Fortunately**, no one was hurt (sentence).

Usually, an adjective qualifies a '**noun**' or a '**pronoun**' but a few adverbs for *Example:* **only**, **even**, **at last**, **almost**, can also be used for the same purpose.

For Examples:



Types of Adverb

3 types of adverb

1. Simple Adverb
2. Relative adverb
3. Interrogative adverb

Read all 3 types of adverb in detail (list of adverb is also given).

1. Simple Adverbs

It denotes *time, place, number, frequency of manner, reason, degree, affirmation, or negation.*

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Adverb of manner

An **adverb of manner** tells us how a verb is done.

Examples:

1. He works **honestly**.
2. He walks **slowly**.

The adverb ending in **'ly'** generally comes under **adverb of manner**.

Slow

Slowly

Glad

Gladly

Honest

Honestly

- *Miser, niggard, scholar, and coward*, are few nouns in which we often confuse between their **adjective** and **adverb** forms.

Noun	Adjective form	Adverb form
Coward	Cowardly	In a cowardly manner
Niggard	Niggardly	In a niggardly manner
Miser	Miserly	In a miserly manner
Scholar	Scholarly	In a scholarly manner

Look at the few sentences:

1. He is miser.
(add **'a'** before **'miser'** which is a noun)
2. He is a miser man. (**wrong**)
He is a **miserly** man. (**Right**)
(use adjective **'miserly'** to qualify man which is a noun)
3. He behaved in a miserly manner. (**wrong**)
(**'behave'** is a verb, and adverb of **'miser'** will be used to qualify the verb)

Remember:

- A few words have the same adverb and adjective forms.

Examples: **Fast, straight, outright, direct, hard, late, high, safe, and quiet.**

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Adverb

Adjective

He works hard.

This is a hard task.

He wakes up early.

He came by an early flight.

Do not talk loud.

We should not speak in a loud tone.

Run fast.

He is a fast runner.

He waited long for me.

He went on a long journey.

Come near.

He is of my near relation.

- A few adverbs have **different meanings in 'ly'** form.

1. Late (*After the usual or proper time*)

Lately (*Recently/of late*) **for example:**

- I haven't seen Akila **Lately**.
- He came **late** for the meeting.

2. Hard (*with great effort*)

Hardly (*with difficulty*) **for example:**

- She works **hardly** to make both ends meet.
- She works **hard** to make both ends meet.
- He **hardly** does any work.

3. Free (*without*)

Freely (*With freedom*) **for example:**

- We can move about **freely** in India.
- Rides are provided **free** in this water park.

- Both '**loudly**' and '**aloud**' are adverbs but different in meaning.

Loudly means '**in high volume**'.

Aloud means '**audibly**'.

Examples:

1. Please speak **aloud**. The students sitting on the last bench are unable to hear you.
2. We cannot play music **loudly** in this park.

Adverb of time

After, ago, early, late, now, then, soon, today, tomorrow, etc. are **adverbs of time**.

It **shows when the action took place**.

Example: I came **late**.

Adverb of place

Here, there, in, out, up, down, within, above, below, etc.

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It shows where the action took place.

Example: I could not find him **anywhere**.

Adverb of frequency/number

Once, twice, thrice, always, never, seldom, often, frequently, etc.

It shows **how often**.

Examples:

1. I can **never** behave in such a reckless manner.
2. She **seldom** goes there.
3. She **often** comes to meet me.

Adverbs of degree

Very, much, more, too, quite, little, almost etc.

It shows **how much**.

Example: I am **quite** well.

Adverb of Reason

So, hence, therefore, on account of, consequently etc.

Adverb of reason **why the action took place**.

Examples:

1. I could not come **because** I was not well.
2. I don't like him **since** he has cheated many people.

Adverbs of affirmation

Surely, certainly, truly, etc.

Examples:

1. She will **truly** help you.
2. I will **surely** repay the loan.

Adverbs of negation

No, not never, etc.

Examples:

1. He did **not** reply to my letter.
2. I have **never** cheated anybody.

2. **Relative Adverbs**

When, where, why, and how, etc.

Relative adverbs join sentences. It points towards its **antecedents** (noun/pronoun) and *denotes place, reason, or manner*.

Examples:

1. I do not know **where** he was gone.
2. He will come **when** I call him.

3. **Interrogative adverbs**

Why, when, where, how.

Examples:

1. **Why** are you surprised?
2. **Where** has she seen me?

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	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
(a)	Hard	Harder	Hardest
	Fast	Faster	Fastest
	Soon	Sooner	Soonest
	Near	Nearer	Nearest
	Early	Earlier	Earliest
(b)	Beautifully	more beautifully	most beautifully
	Carefully	more Carefully	most Carefully
	Slowly	more slowly	most slowly
	Wisely	more wisely	most wisely
(c)	Ill, Badly	worse	worst
	Forth	further	farthest
	Far	farther	farthest
	Late	later	latest, last
	Little	less	least
	Much	more	most
	Well	better	best

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Position of Adverb

Adverb is always placed adjacent to the word that it modifies. If the position of adverb is changed, the meaning of the sentence changes.

Examples:

1. **Only** she saw my dress. (Dress was seen by just one person)
2. She **only** saw my dress. (She did not do anything else)
3. She saw **only** my dress. (She did not see the dress of any other person)
4. She saw my **only** dress. (I had just one dress)
5. She saw my dress **only**. (Not my shoes, accessories etc.)

Read more about adverb position:

- Adverbs can come **at the beginning of a sentence:**
 1. **Interrogative Adverb** is always used at the beginning of a sentence.
Example: When are you returning home?
 2. In order to modify a complete sentence, an adverb is used at the beginning of a sentence
Example: Surely, I will take care of you
 3. To emphasize the adverb, it is used in the beginning.
Examples:
 1. **Off** she goes.
 2. **Here** comes the chief guest.
- Adverbs can come in the middle of a sentence:
 1. **Adverb of time** (*always, never, ever, often, seldom, sometimes*) are used before the verbs that they modify.
But if these adverbs come at the beginning of the sentence, the sentence takes inversion form which means the verb/ helping verb at the beginning of the sentence.
 - Seldom he comes to Delhi.
Seldom does he come to Delhi.
 - Never I'll go there.
Never shall I go there.
 - No sooner she reached the station than the train left.
No sooner did she reach the station than the train left.
 - Hardly she had reached the station when the train arrived
Hardly had she reached the station when the train arrived.
 - So quickly she ran that she overtook her friends.
So quickly did she run that she overtook her friends.
 - His wife comes here and **so** does he.
 - He doesn't know anyone here and **neither** do I.
 2. If both the auxiliary verb and the main verb come in a sentence, the adverb of frequency/ degree is put between the auxiliary verb and the main verb.
 - He will **never** come here. (**Will** – helping verb, **Come** – Main verb)
 - **I have**seldom gone there. (**Have** – helping verb, **Gone** – Main verb)

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3. No matter whether to **'be'** and its forms are used as a **helping verb or a main Verb**, the adverb of *frequency/degree* comes after **'be'**.
- She is **always** happy. (Is – Main verb)
 - I am **never** sad. (Am – Main verb)
 - He is **always** praised for his sweet voice. (Is – helping verb, **Praised** – Main verb)

See the following sentences:

1. He comes often every Sunday. (place **'often'** before **'comes'**)
2. He goes usually to shop every Sunday. (place **'usually'** before **'goes'**)
3. He is always happy. (No error in the sentence)

Adverbs Uses

Here we learn how to use different types of adverbs in sentences, here we have the most important adverbs

– *Very, much, quite, Fairly, rather, too, enough, yet.*

Difference between very and much

- Very is used with a positive degree.
Example: Very good, very wise, very lucky, very honest.
- **Much** is used with comparative degree.
Example: Much better, much wiser, much luckier, much more honest.
- **Note:**
 1. **Very much + comparative degree** is also used in a sentence.
Example: Very much better, very much wiser, very much luckier, etc.
 2. **Very/much** is used with superlative degree too.
Example: The very best boy.
 3. Very is **used before present participle**.
Example: Very interesting, very daring, very confusing, very boring, very entertaining.
 4. Much is also used with past **participle**.
Example: Much surprised, much grieved, much admired.
 5. Very is not used with **past participle**, but it is used with the following past participles.
Example: Very tired, very dejected, very contented, very discontented, very pleased, Very drunk, very limited, very delighted.

Use of **'Quite'**

'Quite' means *'perfectly/ completely'*. It is not used in place of **'very'**.

Examples:

1. She is **quite lovely**. (**wrong**)
She is **very lovely**. (**right**)
2. You are **quite handsome**. (**wrong**)
You are **very handsome**. (**right**)

Use of **'Fairly'** and **'Rather'**

- **Fairly** is used with **positive degree**.
For Example: Fairly wise, fairly good.

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- Rather is used with **positive** and **comparative** degree.
For Example *rather bad, rather difficult, rather worse, rather hotter.*
- 'Fairly' is not followed by 'too'. In such sentences use 'Rather' in place of 'fairly'.
For Example:
 1. Fairly too good. (**wrong**)
 2. Rather too good. (**right**)
- Desirable Adjectives are used after 'fairly'.
For Example: Fairly wise, fairly beautiful.
- Unpleasant adjectives are used after 'rather'.
For Example: Rather wicked, rather difficult, rather troublesome, rather dull.

Note: *Rather amusing, rather good, rather clever, rather pretty, rather beautiful are also correct.*

Use of 'Too'

- 'Too' means 'also' but 'too' usually takes the place of 'also' when needed after some clause or subject.
For Example:
 1. I **also** was invited for tea. (**wrong**)
 2. I **too** was invited for tea. (**right**)
- If 'too' means more than required. Hence, 'too' should not be used with **unpleasant adjectives**. *too bad, too naughty, too wicked, too fat, too dull,* etc.

For example

1. I am **too glad** to meet you. (**wrong**)
 2. I am **very glad** to meet you. (**right**)
- 'Too...to' can take pleasant adjectives too.
For example, He is **too** intelligent **to** be cheated.
 - The sentence given above means 'he is so intelligent that he cannot be cheated'. More examples of **too + adjective**.
 1. He is **too** tall. (He is **awkwardly** tall)
 2. She is **too** slim. (She is **awkwardly** slim)
 3. It is **too** cold. (It is **bitterly** cold)
 4. So cannot be used in place of 'very'
 - I am **so** happy. (**incorrect**)
 - I am **very** happy. (**correct**)
 - I am **so** happy **that** I am unable to control my feeling. (**So...that** is a place of conjunction)

Use of 'Enough'

It **acts as both an adjective and an adverb**. If it works as adverb, it is used after adjectives which it modifies. When used as an adjective it is placed before a noun. **For example:**

Enough precedes a noun but follows an adjective.

1. She is wise **enough** to understand your intension.
2. He has **enough money** to buy this car.

Positive degree of **adjective/adverb** is used before enough.

1. He is (a)/ faster enough (b)/ to defeat (c)/ you. (d)/ No Error (e) (x)

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2. He is bravest (a)/ enough to be (b)/ selected for (c)/ the post of soldier. (d)/ No Error (e) (x)

In sentence (i) use 'fast' in place of 'faster' and in sentence (ii), use 'brave'

Use of 'Yet'

Yet means-up to the moment/ time of speaking. It is used in *interrogative/negatives* sentences. It is placed after verb or verb + object.

Note: It is generally used in present perfect negative sentence not in past tense.

Examples:

1. The postman **did** not come yet.
2. The postman **has** not come yet.
3. **Didn't** the postman come yet?
4. **Hasn't** the postman come yet?

Some important rules relating to adverb

Here we learn some most important Adverb rules that will help you to find out mistakes from the sentences.

Rule-1

'**Else**' is followed by 'but' and 'rather', 'other' and 'otherwise' follows **than**.

Examples:

- (i) I would **rather** die **than** beg.
- (ii) It is nothing **else than** sheer foolishness. (Use 'but' in place of 'than')
- (iii) Rahul had no **other** alternative **but** to work hard. (Use 'than' in place of 'but')
- (iv) Rohit has no one **else** to talk to **except** his wife. (Use 'but' in place of 'except')

Rule-2

Adverbs, *Seldom, never, nowhere, nothing, hardly, scarcely, neither, barely, rarely* are negative in meaning.

Examples:

1. I **rarely** went to meet nobody. (Use 'anybody' in place of 'nobody')
2. She **hardly** knows nothing about me. (Use 'anything' in place of 'nothing')
3. I **hardly** know somebody in the city. (Say 'anybody' in place of 'somebody')

Rule-3

Negative words like **not/never** is not used with *deny, forbid, both, unless, until, lest, hardly, scarcely, rarely, seldom* and *too...to*.

1. She denied that she had **not** done anything wrong. (Delete 'not')
2. **Both** of us are not going there.
Neither of us is going there.
3. Unless he **will** not comes, I will not go.
Unless he **comes**, I will not go.
4. He did not deny that he was not present at the scene of crime
(**Meaning**- He accepted that he was present there.)

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Rule-4

Adverb '**as**' can be used with –*Regard, describe, define, treat, view, know.*

Adverb '**as**' cannot be used with–

Name, elect, think, consider, call, appoint, make, choose.

Examples:

1. I **regard** him my brother. (Add '**as**' after '*him*')
2. Biology has been **defined** the study of organism. (Add '**as**' after '*defined*')
3. She is **considered** as the best student of my class. (Drop '**as**' after '*considerd*')
4. The teacher **called** him as stupid. (Drop '**as**')
5. The principal **appointed** him as lecturer. (Remove '**as**')
6. He **thinks** her as a fool. (Remove '**as**')

Rule-5

'**Too**', '**as well as**', is used as '*Besides*', '*in addition to*' or '*also*' in affirmative sense.

'*Also*' should not be used at the end.

Example: She found her bag and money **too/as well**.

Rule-6

'*Seldom or never*', '*seldom, if ever*', '*little or nothing*', '*little*', '*if anything*' are correct but it is wrong to say '*seldom or ever*' or '*little or anything*'.

Example: He seldom or never goes to see movies.

Rule-7

Verbs of sensation (*Taste, Smell, Feel, Appear, Seem, Sound, and look*), should take **adjective and not adverb** after them.

Example:

1. I *look* **honest**,
2. I *work* **honestly**.
3. I *felt* **bad**.
4. I *sing* **badly**.

Italic words are verb of sensation, **bold** words are adjectives.

Be, become, turn, get, grow, keep, make, and prove are also certain verbs that take adjective and not adverb after them. For example, He got **angry**.

Rule-8

Manly, masterly, slovenly, friendly, orderly, gentlemanly, sickly, weekly, monthly are adjectives. They must not be mistaken as adverbs just because they end in '*ly*'.

1. He behaved **friendly**.
2. He behaved **in a friendly manner**.