

Adverbs of Manner

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Grammar Notes

ADVERBS OF MANNER

A. Introduction to Adverbs

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

Adverb	Function
You speak quickly .	The adverb <i>quickly</i> describes the verb <i>speak</i> .
I am extremely tired.	The adverb <i>extremely</i> describes the adjective <i>tired</i> .
He drives really carefully.	The adverb <i>really</i> describes the adverb <i>carefully</i> .
I love rainy days, actually .	The adverb <i>actually</i> describes the whole sentence.

B. Adverbs of Manner

This lesson will focus on adverbs of manner.
Adverbs of manner describe how an action is done.

Look at the following examples. What do these adverbs have in common?
What positions can adverbs of manner have in a sentence?

#	Action	How?	Action + Adverb
1	She studies every day.	How does she study every day?	She studies quietly every day.
2	They spoke to each other.	How did they speak to each other?	They spoke to each other calmly .
3	He is petting the puppy.	How is he petting the puppy?	He is gently petting the puppy.

Grammar Notes cont.

C. Form

Most adverbs of manner are formed by adding *-ly* to an adjective.

Adverb Formation

Look at the adjective and adverb pairs. What spelling changes do you notice?

Adjective	Adverb
angry	angrily
bad	badly
beautiful	beautifully
careful	carefully
cautious	cautiously
dangerous	dangerously
gentle	gently
happy	happily
healthy	healthily
lazy	lazily
loud	loudly
noisy	noisily
quick	quickly
quiet	quietly
sleepy	sleepily

Exception #1

Some adverbs are irregular because they don't have an *-ly* ending. These adverbs and adjectives have the same form. Common irregular adverbs include *hard*, *fast*, and *late*.

- She is a **fast** runner.
(the adjective *fast* describes the noun *runner*)
- She runs **fast**.
(the adverb *fast* describes the verb *runs*)

Exception #2

Another irregular adverb is *well*. The adjective *good* becomes the adverb *well*.

- There are many **good** athletes at our school.
(the adjective *good* describes the noun *athletes*)
- Our school's athletes performed **well** during the competition.
(the adverb *well* describes the verb *performed*)

Exception #3

Some adjectives end in *-ly* just like most adverbs do. Common adjectives ending in *-ly* are *friendly*, *costly*, and *silly*. Other words, such as *hourly*, *daily*, *weekly*, *monthly*, and *yearly*, can be both adjectives and adverbs.

- They have a **daily** meeting.
(the adjective *daily* describes the noun *meeting*)
- They attend a meeting **daily**.
(the adverb *daily* describes the verb *attend*)

Grammar Notes cont.

D. Sentence Position

There are four possible sentence patterns for adverbs of manner.
The most common pattern is Verb + Adverb.

Pattern	Position	Examples
Verb + Adverb	after the main verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I ran quickly down the stairs. (the adverb <i>quickly</i> describes the verb <i>ran</i>) They are laughing loudly. (the adverb <i>loudly</i> describes the verb <i>are laughing</i>)
SVO + Adverb	after the object or at the end of the sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She sings the song well. (the adverb <i>well</i> describes the verb <i>sings</i>) We will give the money to you soon. (the adverb <i>soon</i> describes the verb <i>will give</i>)
Adverb + Verb	before the main verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He quietly read his book. (the adverb <i>quietly</i> describes the verb <i>read</i>) I calmly practiced my speech. (the adverb <i>calmly</i> describes the verb <i>practiced</i>)
Verb + Adverb + Verb	between the auxiliary verb and the main verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are patiently waiting for his arrival. (the adverb <i>patiently</i> describes the verb <i>are waiting</i>) She is cautiously climbing the ladder. (the adverb <i>cautiously</i> describes the verb <i>is climbing</i>)

Grammar Notes cont.

E. Adverbs with Two Forms

Some adverbs have different forms depending on the meaning and sentence position. Can you guess which two adverbs are not adverbs of manner?

	Meaning	Position	Examples
close	near in space or time	after a verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You're standing too close (or <i>closely</i>) to me.*
closely	near	before or after a verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We are closely related. They worked closely on this presentation.
hard	with a lot of effort	after a verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Did you study hard for the test?
hardly	almost not at all	before a verb or at the beginning of a sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She hardly got anything ready before the party. Hardly anyone came to the meeting.
late	after an expected time	after a verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He always sleeps late and misses the bus.
lately	recent time	at the beginning or end of a sentence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lately I haven't been feeling well. Everything has been great lately.
slow	the opposite of <i>fast</i>	after verbs of movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drive slow (or <i>slowly</i>) on these icy roads.*
slowly	the opposite of <i>fast</i>	before or after a verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The truth slowly came out. The teacher spoke slowly so everyone could understand.

*Note

After verbs of movement, *slow* and *close* are more common than *slowly* and *closely*.

Exercise 1

FILL IN THE BLANKS

Write one adverb from the list into each sentence.
Use each adverb only once.

Ex. During the interview, she answered all the questions intelligently .

1. There was a fire, but everyone made it out of the building _____ .
2. I can't believe my coworker just spoke _____ to our boss.
I wonder if he'll get fired.
3. It's cold out. I hope you dress _____ .
4. Pablo worked really _____ on his essay.
5. My roommate is _____ folding his laundry.
6. When the power went out, the kindergarten teacher _____
spoke to the frightened students.
7. My cat stretched out _____ in the sun.
8. She greeted me _____ when we were introduced.
9. The little girl smiled _____ at her father when he woke her up.
10. How did you finish the test so _____ ?

Adverb List:

- lazily
- politely
- rudely
- quickly
- hard
- safely
- warmly
- neatly
- calmly
- sleepily
- ~~intelligently~~

Exercise 2

ADVERB FORMATION

Write the adverb form next to each adjective.
Pay attention to your spelling.

#	Adjective	Adverb
Ex	kind	<i>kindly</i>
1	hungry	
2	intelligent	
3	bad	
4	healthy	
5	important	
6	careful	
7	quick	
8	noisy	
9	hard	

#	Adjective	Adverb
10	calm	
11	dangerous	
12	gentle	
13	fast	
14	patient	
15	daily	
16	simple	
17	good	
18	sleepy	
19	weekly	

Exercise 3

COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

Complete each sentence by writing the missing adverb.
Use the adjective below the line to help you form the adverb.

Ex. The counselor responded _____ *helpfully* _____ when I asked for advice.
(helpful)

1. My sister has an amazing voice. She sings _____ .
(beautiful)
2. That guy sure knows how to run _____ . He beat everyone at the track competition.
(fast)
3. When you want something done _____ , sometimes you have to do it yourself.
(correct)
4. The new girl _____ introduced herself to the class.
(shy)
5. Now that the windshield is clean, I can see _____ .
(clear)
6. The ballerinas danced _____ around the stage.
(graceful)
7. That joke was so funny. I laughed _____ when you told it to me.
(loud)
8. The chef will _____ prepare our meal.
(quick)
9. The children ate their snacks _____ .
(noisy)
10. The big waves _____ crashed onto the beach.
(violent)

Exercise 4

INTERVIEW

Ask your partner questions 1–8 and write his/her answers on the lines. Then write your own questions for 9 and 10. Answer your partner’s questions using adverbs of manner. You can use an adverb from the list or think of your own.

Example

A: How do you brush your hair?

B: I brush my hair roughly.

[A writes, "She brushes her hair roughly."]

1. How do you run?

2. How do you sing?

3. How do you dance?

4. How do you eat?

5. How do you text?

6. How do you talk to your friends?

7. How do you speak English?

8. How do you answer questions in a job interview?

9. How do you _____ ?

10. How do you _____ ?

Adverb List:

- well
- badly
- quickly
- slowly
- happily
- angrily
- cheerfully
- sadly
- loudly
- softly
- noisily
- quietly
- gently
- roughly
- nervously
- confidently
- politely
- rudely
- intelligently
- foolishly
- enthusiastically
- reluctantly

Exercise 5

FIND THE ERROR

Find one error in each sentence. Rewrite the sentences correctly.
There may be more than one possible answer.

Ex. The parents sang to get their children to go to sleep softly.

The parents sang softly to get their children to go to sleep. / The parents softly sang to get their children to go to sleep.

1. Hans answered all of the intelligently questions on the job application.

2. The carefully scientist mixed the chemicals.

3. I haven't played the piano for two years. When I tried yesterday, badly I played.

4. She completed the driving successfully test.

5. Lee well played soccer yesterday.

6. The boy hugged his gently baby sister.

7. Diego approached the cautiously big dog.

8. Hye Jun ran to catch the quickly bus.

9. Julia studied to improve hard her English.

10. She asked about the repeatedly homework.

Exercise 6

CLASS ACT

Form two teams. One member from the first team will come to the front of the class. Your teacher will choose a verb and tell everyone what it is, and then that student will choose an adverb card.

The first team has 10 seconds to guess what their teammate is doing! Guess by yelling out a sentence with an adverb. Then it's the other team's turn. Keep going until all the cards are gone. Which team can get the most points?

Example

Student A: You're dancing slowly!

Student B: You're dancing nervously!

Student C: You're dancing badly!

Teacher: Mohammed is right. Naoko is dancing nervously.
Mohammed's team gets a point!

Verb List:

- walk
- run
- stand up
- sit down
- speak
- text
- jump (with both feet)
- hop (on one foot)
- sing
- dance
- shake
- cry
- laugh
- smile
- eat
- drink

Exercise 7

ADVERB OR ADJECTIVE?

Write "adverb" if the word in bold is an adverb and "adjective" if it is an adjective.
Refer back to the Grammar Notes (Exceptions 1-3) on page 3 for help.

#	Sentence	Adverb or Adjective?
Ex	They arrived late to class.	<i>adverb</i>
1	She is a hard worker.	
2	He works hard at his job.	
3	Sandra entered the class quietly because it had already started.	
4	I like Ryan. He's a friendly guy.	
5	We moved fast when we realized we were late.	
6	They saw some fast cars in the race yesterday.	
7	Are you going to the weekly study session?	
8	My new purse is by a famous designer. It's pretty costly .	
9	I didn't study last night, so I probably won't do well on the test.	
10	Don't speak loudly in the library.	

Exercise 8 (Student A)

PAIR WORK

A. Last Saturday






What did Sachiko and Ali do last Saturday?
How did they do each action? Look at the chart.
Ask your partner for the missing information.
Use adverbs that match the emoji you see.

Example

Student A: How did Sachiko exercise?

Student B: *[looks at emoji]* She exercised quickly.
How did Ali exercise?

Student A: *[looks at emoji]* He exercised slowly.

	exercise	talk to a friend	do homework	go to a movie	go to bed
Sachiko	 quickly		 nervously		 sleepily
Ali		 loudly		 excitedly	

B. Writing

Now write sentences about Sachiko and Ali.

- Sachiko exercised quickly, and Ali exercised slowly.*
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

Exercise 8 (Student B)

PAIR WORK

A. Last Saturday






What did Sachiko and Ali do last Saturday?
How did they do each action? Look at the chart.
Ask your partner for the missing information.
Use adverbs that match the emoji you see.

Example

Student A: How did Sachiko exercise?

Student B: *[looks at emoji]* She exercised quickly.
How did Ali exercise?

Student A: *[looks at emoji]* He exercised slowly.

	exercise	talk to a friend	do homework	go to a movie	go to bed
Sachiko		 shyly		 happily	
Ali	 slowly		 quietly		 sleepily

B. Writing

Now write sentences about Sachiko and Ali.

1. Sachiko exercised quickly, and Ali exercised slowly.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Exercise 9

ADVERBS WITH TWO FORMS

Fill in the blanks with an adverb from the box. Use each adverb only once.
Refer back to the Grammar Notes on page 4 for help.

Ex. She hardly said anything to me at the party.

1. That man and that woman are _____ related.
2. I got home really _____ last night, so I'm tired today.
3. If you speak more _____, I will be able to understand you better.
4. They _____ made any progress on their report because they were talking so much.
5. Go _____! The roads are icy.
6. Have you heard from him _____?
7. She worked _____ for that promotion.
8. Please don't sit so _____ to me.

Adverb List:

- ~~hardly~~
- slow
- closely
- hard
- late
- hardly
- lately
- close
- slowly

Exercise 10

QUIZ

Choose the correct answer.

1. He smiled _____ at me.
a) nervous
b) nervously
2. Jun played baseball _____ today.
a) well
b) goodly
3. Did you answer _____ ?
a) honestly the questions
b) the questions honestly
4. Samira painted a _____ .
a) beautiful painting
b) painting beautifully
5. Lee _____ the choices.
a) carefully considered
b) considered carefully
6. How did you finish _____ ?
a) so quickly the test
b) the test so quickly
7. Don't show up _____ !
a) late
b) lately
8. Make sure you play _____ with the small kittens.
a) careful
b) carefully
9. I'm tired because I slept _____ last night.
a) unwell
b) badly
10. She _____ friendly.
a) is
b) has
11. Juan _____ .
a) fast drove
b) drove fast
12. Sarah sang _____ .
a) beautifully the song
b) the song beautifully

Answer Key

LESSON DESCRIPTION:

In this lesson, students learn the form and sentence positions of adverbs of manner. Students are also introduced to adverbs with two forms.

LEVEL: Low Int – Int

TIME: 2 hours

TAGS: adverbs, manner, how, adverbs of manner, verbs, grammar practice, grammar

Grammar Notes

Review the grammar notes as a class, or have students read through them for homework before starting this lesson. After reviewing page 2, you may wish to elicit the form (adjective + *-ly* ending) and sentence patterns (adverb + verb, verb + adverb, SVO + adverb, verb + adverb + verb) for adverbs of manner before showing students the examples on page 3.

On page 3, try to elicit these spelling rules for adverb formation:

1. Add *-ly* to most adjectives.
2. Adjectives ending in *-l* take a double *-ll*.
3. Adjectives ending in *-e* drop the *-e*.
4. Adjectives ending in *-y* change to *-i*.

On page 5, the adverbs with two forms that aren't adverbs of manner are *hardly* and *lately*.

Exercise 1

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. safely | 6. calmly |
| 2. rudely | 7. lazily |
| 3. warmly | 8. politely |
| 4. hard | 9. sleepily |
| 5. neatly | 10. quickly |

Exercise 2

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. hungrily | 11. dangerously |
| 2. intelligently | 12. gently |
| 3. badly | 13. fast |
| 4. healthily | 14. patiently |
| 5. importantly | 15. daily |
| 6. carefully | 16. simply |
| 7. quickly | 17. well |
| 8. noisily | 18. sleepily |
| 9. hard | 19. weekly |
| 10. calmly | |

Exercise 3

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 1. beautifully | 6. gracefully |
| 2. fast | 7. loudly |
| 3. correctly | 8. quickly |
| 4. shyly | 9. noisily |
| 5. clearly | 10. violently |

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Exercise 4

Answers will vary. You may wish to go over the meaning of the adverbs in the Adverb List before students interview each other. If your students can handle it, encourage them to use two adverbs in their answers. (E.g., *I brush my hair quickly and roughly.*)

Exercise 5

You can tell students to write only one sentence if more than one answer is possible, or you can have them write all possible sentences using the back of the page. You may wish to point out that for sentences where three adverb of manner positions are possible, the most common pattern is V + Adv, followed closely by SVO + Adv. The Adv + V pattern is not quite as common. See the Editor's Note on page 19 if your students ask you when and why certain patterns are possible/not possible.

1. Hans answered all of the questions on the job application **intelligently**. / Hans **intelligently** answered all of the questions on the job application.
2. The scientist mixed the chemicals **carefully**. / The scientist **carefully** mixed the chemicals.
3. I haven't played the piano for two years. / When I tried yesterday, I played **badly**.
4. She completed the driving test **successfully**. / She **successfully** completed the driving test.
5. Lee played soccer **well** yesterday.
6. The boy hugged his baby sister **gently**. / The boy **gently** hugged his baby sister.
7. Diego approached the big dog **cautiously**. / Diego **cautiously** approached the big dog.
8. Hye Jun ran **quickly** to catch the bus. / Hye Jun **quickly** ran to catch the bus. / Hye Jun ran to catch the bus **quickly**.
9. Julia studied **hard** to improve her English.
10. She asked **repeatedly** about the homework. / She asked about the homework **repeatedly**. / She **repeatedly** asked about the homework.

Exercise 6

Cut up the set of cards on page 20. Assign students to two groups and have them choose their team name. Make sure the students know the meaning of all the verbs. Proceed with the game. If the student chooses an adverb that just won't work with the verb, they can choose another card instead, but encourage them to try odd combinations to make the game more fun (e.g., *eat angrily*).

Exercise 7

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. adjective | 6. adjective |
| 2. adverb | 7. adjective |
| 3. adverb | 8. adjective |
| 4. adjective | 9. adverb |
| 5. adverb | 10. adverb |

Exercise 8

A. LAST SATURDAY

Answers may vary.

Student A: Sachiko talked to a friend shyly and went to a movie happily. Ali exercised slowly, did homework quietly, and went to bed sleepily.

Student B: Sachiko exercised quickly, did homework nervously, and went to bed sleepily. Ali talked to a friend loudly and went to a movie excitedly.

B. WRITING

2. Sachiko talked to a friend shyly, and Ali talked to a friend loudly.
3. Sachiko did homework nervously, and Ali did homework quietly.
4. Sachiko went to a movie happily, and Ali went to a movie excitedly.
5. Sachiko and Ali went to bed sleepily.

(continued on the next page...)

Answer Key cont.

Exercise 9

- | | |
|------------|-----------|
| 1. closely | 5. slow |
| 2. late | 6. lately |
| 3. slowly | 7. hard |
| 4. hardly | 8. close |

Exercise 10

- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. b | 3. b | 5. a | 7. a | 9. b | 11. b |
| 2. a | 4. a | 6. b | 8. b | 10. a | 12. b |

SPELLING NOTE:

This lesson shows the American spelling of the words *Counselor* and *Practice*. Most other English-speaking countries spell these words this way: *Counsellor* and *Practise* (when used as a verb; *Practice* when used as a noun). Make it a challenge for your students to find these words in the lesson and see if they know the alternate spellings.

ABOUT THE EMOJI:

The emoji (and their derivatives) used in this lesson are from Twemoji, an open-source project by Twitter. They are licensed under CC-BY 4.0. <https://github.com/twitter/twemoji>

EDITOR'S NOTES:

For higher-level students, you may wish to point out when the four adverb positions are possible. Here are some rules to share with your students:

- Most transitive verbs (verbs that take a direct object) follow three adverbs patterns. The adverbs usually don't go between the verb and the object.
 - ✓ He finished his homework completely. (SVO + Adv)
 - ✓ He completely finished his homework. (Adv + V)
 - ✓ He will completely finish his homework. (V + Adv + V)
 - ✗ He finished completely his homework. (V + Adv)
- Most intransitive verbs (verbs that don't take a direct object) follow all four adverb patterns.
 - ✓ She asked repeatedly about the homework. (V + Adv)
 - ✓ She asked about the homework repeatedly. (at end of sentence)
 - ✓ She repeatedly asked about the homework. (Adv + V)
 - ✓ She is repeatedly asking about the homework. (V + Adv + V)
- The adverbs *badly*, *well*, *fast*, *late*, and *hard* follow the V + Adv pattern only when there is no direct object. If there is an object, they only follow the SVO + Adv pattern. They never follow the Adv + V pattern.
 - ✓ She sang well.
 - ✗ She well sang.
 - ✓ She sang the song well.
 - ✗ She sang well the song.
- If there is another verb in the prepositional phrase, the adverb cannot go at the end of the sentence unless it is modifying the verb in the prepositional phrase.
 - ✓ He ran quickly to catch the bus. (*quickly* modifies *ran*)
 - ✓ He quickly ran to catch the bus. (*quickly* modifies *ran*)
 - ✓ He ran to catch the bus quickly. (*quickly* does not modify *ran*; it modifies *catch*)

Class Act Cards

quickly	happily	slowly	sadly
quietly	angrily	loudly	carefully
gently	noisily	fast	nervously
well	sleepily	badly	repeatedly
lazily	shyly	roughly	enthusiastically
awkwardly	anxiously	cheerfully	carefully
noisily	silently	reluctantly	confidently