# **Recognizing Adverbs**

Sometimes people are not sure whether a word is an adjective or an adverb. Review the definitions of those two parts of speech.

An adjective describes a noun or pronoun.



Nancy is tall.

The word tall describes Nancy.

Nancy is a noun; therefore, tall is an adjective.

An adverb answers a question about a verb, an adjective, or another adverb in a sentence.



Nancy walked outside.

The word *outside* tells where Nancy walked.

Walked is a verb; therefore, *outside* is an adverb.

**Activity A** Write the words in bold on your paper. Beside each word, write whether it is an *adjective* or an *adverb*.

1) Larry is late	e.
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11) He runs fast.

2) He is here.

12) He's a fast runner.

3) That house is large.

**13)** He is fast.

**4)** She works **hard**.

**14)** The answer is **clear**.

**5)** He is a **hard** worker.

15) Speak clearly!

6) Jack lives here.

**16)** We practice **daily**.

7) Today we ran.

17) Do daily exercises.

8) We arrived late.

18) Let's leave early.

9) They arrived later.

19) Is this the early show?

**10)** We looked **up**.

20) We usually eat at noon.

Many adverbs are made from adjectives by adding the ending -ly.

EXAMPLES Ad

Adjectives Adverbs

The cloth is **soft**. He sang **softly**.

The candy is sweet. She smiled sweetly.

Carol looks happy. Fernando laughed happily.

**Activity B** Write the words in bold on your paper. Beside each word, write whether it is an adjective or an adverb.

- 1) The sea was very calm today.
- 2) Donna walked calmly out of the room.
- 3) Between classes the halls were quiet.
- **4)** The boy **quietly** watched the movie.
- 5) "This is an extremely difficult case," the lawyer said.
- 6) "This is an extreme case," the lawyer said.
- 7) My new puppy is always hungry.
- **8)** The hikers ate lunch hungrily.

Sometimes an adverb is made from a noun by adding -ly.

EXAMPLES

Noun

Adverb

May I have part of that?

He is **partly** finished.

**Activity C** Write the words in bold on your paper. Beside each word, write whether it is a noun or an adverb.

- 1) The books were in alphabetical order.
- 2) Please do things orderly.
- 3) We went to the store every week.
- 4) The family shops weekly.
- **5)** The bills arrive every **month**.
- 6) We pay our bills monthly.

Not all words ending in -ly are adverbs. Many common adjectives end in -ly, too.

## EXAMPLES

Dwayne received some fatherly advice from Mr. Belindo.

Fatherly is an adjective that describes the noun advice.

Janell is a **friendly** person.

Friendly is an adjective that describes the noun person.

Other words that end in -ly may be used as adjectives or adverbs.

### EXAMPLES

#### Adjectives

**Adverbs** 

He did the daily report.

He reported daily.

We left in the early morning. We left early.

Write the words in bold on your paper. Beside Activity D each word, write whether it is an adjective or an adverb.

- 1) New cars are very **costly**.
- **2)** Only Vanessa arrived on time.
- 3) That is an ugly cut.
- **4)** They sat **quietly** and waited.
- **5)** Donna's report was **timely**.
- **6)** That is a **lovely** song.
- 7) Mr. Santos missed his early class.
- 8) They easily won first prize.
- 9) The car skidded dangerously close to us.
- **10)** The music has a **lively** beat.

*Part A* Write the words in bold on your paper. Beside each word, write whether it is an adverb or an adjective.

- 1) This **deadly** poison will get rid of all kinds of bugs.
- 2) Mr. Ozawa prepared his yearly report.
- 3) We receive a newspaper daily.
- 4) Please try to come to class early.
- 5) Carla smiled happily.
- 6) Where have you been lately?
- 7) I am partly finished with my report.
- 8) They went to Chicago on the early train.
- 9) We listened to the daily weather report.
- 10) The drought left the land bare and ugly.

**Part B** Write two sentences for each of the words below on your paper. In the first sentence, use the word as an adjective. In the second sentence, use the word as an adverb.

- 1) fast
- 2) early
- 3) late
- 4) weekly
- 5) hard
- 6) inside
- 7) best

## **Comparing With Adverbs**

Many adverbs are used to make comparisons. The three degrees of comparison are positive, comparative, and superlative.

EXXXVIVIPUES	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
	fast	faster	fastest
	slowly	more slowly	most slowly
	happily	less happily	least happily
	well	better	best

One-syllable adverbs form their comparative and superlative forms by adding -er and -est. Adverbs of more than one syllable usually form their comparative and superlative forms by using more and most. Adverbs can also be compared with less and least. A few adverbs are irregular, such as well, better, and best.

Remember to use the comparative form to compare two things. Use the superlative form to compare more than two things.



Kim finished more quickly than Ben.

Tom worked most quickly of them all.

Activity A Write the adverbs in each of these sentences on your paper.

- 1) This shoe fits comfortably.
- 2) This shoe fits more comfortably than that one.
- 3) Of the three, that shoe fits most comfortably.
- 4) Victor is speaking calmly.
- **5)** He is speaking more calmly than Hector.
- 6) He speaks most calmly when he has practiced his speech.
- 7) Jack writes well.
- 8) He writes better this year than last year.
- 9) He writes best about football.

Activity B Write each adverb below on your paper. Beside each adverb, write its comparative and superlative forms.

## Example softly—more softly, most softly

- 1) loudly
- 2) brightly
- 3) fast
- 4) hard
- 5) gladly
- **6)** clearly
- **7)** softly
- **8)** angrily

*Activity* C Write the correct form of the adverb in parentheses to complete each sentence.

- 1) The lights shone (brightly) tonight than any night this week.
- **2)** Liz sings (well) than Fernando.
- 3) Dan works (hard) when he is interested.
- 4) Of all the students, Kim worked (quickly).
- 5) Zeke played the trumpet (loudly) than his brother.

Part A Write the adverbs in each of these sentences on your paper. Beside each adverb, write the degree of comparison.

**Example** Sarah dances most unusually.

#### most unusually—superlative

- 1) Paul runs the mile faster than Sam.
- 2) Everyone in class worked hard.
- 3) I work best when I am rested.
- 4) Carl reads less quickly than Mike.
- 5) The choir sang the chorus more loudly than the verses.
- 6) Everyone worked least happily at the end of the day.
- 7) I like apples better than pears.
- 8) The winds howled most loudly at midnight.
- 9) The children played more quietly after lunch.
- 10) Irene plays the drums well.

*Part B* Write each adverb below on your paper. Beside each adverb, write its comparative and superlative forms.

### Example quietly—more quietly, most quietly

- 1) happily
- 2) quickly
- 3) well
- 4) loudly
- 5) politely
- 6) sweetly
- 7) noisily
- 8) briskly
- 9) sadly
- 10) kindly