

English Grammar – Adjectives and Adverbs

Adjectives describe nouns (things/people):

She has a **fantastic** car.

Adverbs describe verbs (actions):

He drives **slowly**.

Adverbs can also emphasize adjectives:

They are **extremely** boring.

Adjectives are always before the **noun**, but **adverbs** after the **verb phrase**. If an **adverb** is emphasizing an **adjective**, then it is before the **adjective**.

Examples:

<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Adverb</u> (+ly)	<u>Adjectives with no adverb</u>
safe	safely	small, big
bad	badly	long
large	largely	tall
loud	loudly	fat
current	currently	hot
interesting	interestingly	old
sad	sadly	red, blue, etc.
quick	quickly	
slow	slowly	
beautiful	beautifully	
quiet	quietly	
violent	violently	
dangerous	dangerously	
nice	nicely	
polite	politely	
eventual	eventually	
final	finally	
actual	actually	
terminal	terminally	

Adjectives ending in -Y

For adjectives that end in **-y**, the “**y**” becomes “**i**” and we add **-ly**:

crazy crazily
happy happily
easy easily

(Exceptions: shy → shyly, sly → slyly)

Adjectives ending in -UE

For adjectives that end in **-ue**, we remove the **-e** and add **-ly**:

true truly
due duly

Adjectives ending in -LE

For adjectives that end in **-le** we replace the **-le** with **-ly**,

horrible	horribly
terrible	terribly
comfortable	comfortably
simple	simply

Adverbs ending in -IC

For adjectives that end in **-ic**, we add **-ally**:

ironic	ironically
enthusiastic	enthusiastically
realistic	realistically
phonetic	phonetically
tragic	tragically

(Exception: public → publicly)

Adverbs ending in -LL

For adjectives that end in **-ll**, we simply add **-y**:

full	→	fully
dull	→	dully

Irregular Adverbs. Some adverbs do not end in -LY:

<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Adverb</u>	<u>Example</u>
fast	fast	He has a fast car. He drives fast .
good	well	You have good English. You speak English well .
hard	hard	You are a hard worker. You work hard .

Adverbs that can be used to emphasize adjectives:

- really He is a **really** interesting guy.
- specially This is a **specially** important date.
- incredibly This place is **incredibly** beautiful.
- extremely The journey is **extremely** long.
- seriously He was **seriously** wrong.
- particularly We are **particularly** busy.
- totally The tank is **totally** empty.
- completely I am **completely** exhausted.

Adverbs that describe frequency:

hourly, daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly, bimonthly, quarterly, biannually, yearly/annually
always, usually, frequently, sometimes, rarely, never (these words go before the verb)
(synonyms of "rarely": hardly, barely, scarcely, seldom)

Song suggestion:

The Logical Song: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukKQw578Lm8> (4 mins)

Exercise 1. Complete the following sentences with an adjective or an adverb.

- 1) He reads the book. (*quick*) _____
- 2) Mandy is a girl. (*pretty*) _____
- 3) The class is noisy today. (*terrible*) _____
- 4a) Max is a singer. (*good*) _____
- 4b) Max sings the song. (*good*) _____
- 5) I can open this box. (*easy*) _____
- 6) It's a day today. (*sunny*) _____
- 7a) He is a driver. (*careful*) _____
- 7b) He drives. (*careful*) _____
- 8) The dog barks. (*loud*) _____
- 9) The bus driver was injured. (*serious*) _____
- 10a) Kevin is clever. (*extreme*) _____
- 10b) Kevin is a clever boy. (*extreme*) _____
- 11) Drink this glass of milk. It's very hot! (*careful*) _____
- 12) Robin seems today. (*sad*) _____
- 13) Jack is upset about losing his keys. (*terrible*) _____
- 14) Our team played last Friday. (*bad*) _____
- 15) Please don't speak. My English is not very good. (*fast*) _____
- 16) Maria opened her present. (*slow*) _____
- 17) I enjoyed the flight. (*real*) _____
- 18) Mary watches TV. (*rare*) _____

Exercise 2. Complete the following sentences with the correct forms of the words given.

1. Do you have any _____ experience? (*manage*)
2. There are many _____ benefits besides this one. (*addition*)
3. What are your _____ qualifications? (*profession*)
4. Do you know the owner _____? (*person*)
5. The office is _____ located. (*center*)
6. It's a very _____ company. (*friend*)
7. You will have a share of the _____ profits. (*quarter*)
8. What is your _____ salary? (*month*)
9. Our office is cleaned twice _____. (*day*)
10. We have meetings _____ in our office. (*week*)