

What is an adverb?

- An adverb is a word that modifies a verb, and adjective, or another adverb.
 - Explorers **eagerly** **chase** adventure.
 - Eagerly is an adverb because it is modifying the verb, chase.
 - Some explorers visit **amazingly** **beautiful** places.
 - Amazingly is an adverb because it is modifying the adjective, beautiful.
 - Others **quite** **bravely** **explore** the unknown- space.
 - Quite is an adverb because it is modifying the adverb, bravely, which is modifying the verb explore.

Adverbs answer the questions *how, when, where, or to what extent*.

- How? suddenly, carefully, sadly
- When? now, later, soon
- Where? there, up, ahead
- To What Extent? completely, totally, fully

- Adverbs can appear in different positions in sentences.
 - The tourists boarded the bus eagerly. (after the verb)
 - The tourists eagerly boarded the bus. (before the verb)
 - Eagerly, the tourists boarded the bus. (at the beginning)

- Adverbs that modify adjectives or other adverbs usually come directly before the words they modify. They usually answer the question *to what extent*.
 - Marco Polo told **really** wonderful tales of China.
 - **Really** modifies the adjective, wonderful.
 - People were **very** eager to hear his stories.
 - **Very** modifies the adjective, eager.
 - They **nearly** always hung on every word.
 - **Nearly** modifies the adverb, always.

- Many adverbs are formed by adding the suffix, *-ly* to the end of an adjective. Sometimes the spelling of the base word changes when *-ly* is added.
 - **Near**: add *-ly* to make it an adverb- **nearly**
 - **Gentle**: drop the *e* and add *-ly* to make it an adverb- **gently**
 - **Easy**: change the *y* to *i* and add *-ly* to make it an adverb- **easily**

Comparative adverbs

- The comparative form of an adverb is used when you compare a person or thing with one other person or thing.
 - He finished **sooner** than she did.
- If the adverb has one syllable, add an –er to make it comparative.
 - slow = slow**er**
 - soon = soon**er**
- If the adverb has two or more syllables, add more to the beginning to make it comparative.
 - calmly = **more** calmly
 - briskly = **more** briskly

Superlative adverbs

- The superlative form of an adverb is used when you are comparing a person or thing with more than one other person or thing.
 - He is the **quickest** of the three boys.
- If the adverb has one syllable, add an –est to make it superlative.
 - slow = slow**est**
 - soon = soon**est**
- If the adverb has two or more syllables, add most to the beginning to make it superlative.
 - Calmly = **most** calmly
 - Briskly = **most** briskly

- Do NOT use *more* and *-er* together or *most* and *-est* together.
 - Incorrect: That beach has the **most** whit**est** sand.
 - Correct: That beach has the whit**est** sand.

- The comparative and superlative forms of some adjectives and adverbs are completely different words:
 - good, better, best
 - bad, worse, worst
 - well, better, best
 - much, more, most
 - little, less, least