

Adjectives and adverbs

Reminder → L5–L6

A

Some adverbs of manner (saying how something is done) are formed from an **adjective + -ly**: **sudden** → **suddenly**, **happy** → **happily**, etc. When an adjective already ends in **-ly** (e.g. **cowardly**, **elderly**, **friendly**, **kindly**, **lively**, **lonely**, **lovely**) we don't add **-ly** to it to make an adverb. Instead we can use a prepositional phrase with **fashion**, **manner**, or **way**:

- He smiled at me in a **friendly way**.
- She waved her hands around in a **lively fashion**.

Most participle adjectives ending in **-ed** (see Unit 69) don't have an adverb form and so we use a prepositional phrase instead:

- They rose to greet me in a **subdued manner**. (*not ... subduedly.*)

or we use a preposition and a related noun if there is one:

- She looked at me **in amazement**. (*not ... amazedly.*)

However, some do have an adverb form with **-ly**. Compare:

- The storm was **unexpected**. *and*
- The weather turned **unexpectedly** stormy.

Also: agitatedly, allegedly, deservedly, determinedly, disappointedly, excitedly, hurriedly, pointedly, repeatedly, reportedly, reputedly, supposedly, worriedly

B

Some adverbs have two forms, one ending in **-ly** and the other not. We can sometimes use either form without changing the meaning, although the form ending in **-ly** is grammatically correct and more formal:

She ran **quick** / **quickly** towards the door.
and must be used if the adverb comes immediately before the verb:

- She **quickly** ran towards the door. (*not She quick ran ...*)

Also: cheap(ly), clean(ly), clear(ly), fine(ly), loud(ly), thin(ly), slow(ly)

C

Some adverbs have different meanings with and without **-ly**. Compare:

- She gave her time **free**. (= for no money) *and* She gave her time **freely**. (= willingly)
- I arrived **late** for the concert. (= not on time) *and* I haven't seen Amy **lately**. (= recently)

Compare also:

<input type="checkbox"/> He wandered deep into the forest and got lost. (= a long way)	<input type="checkbox"/> He felt deeply hurt by her criticisms. (= very)
<input type="checkbox"/> You don't have to change trains. You can go direct . (= without stopping)	<input type="checkbox"/> They loved each other deeply . (= very much)
<input type="checkbox"/> It sounded awful – one of the choir members was singing flat .	<input type="checkbox"/> I'll be with you directly . (= very soon)
<input type="checkbox"/> He kicked the ball high over the goal.	<input type="checkbox"/> He saw Hassan directly ahead. (= straight)
<input type="checkbox"/> 'Is Emil here yet?' 'He's just arrived.'	<input type="checkbox"/> This time I flatly refused to lend him any money. (= definitely; completely)
<input type="checkbox"/> She looks just like her mother.	<input type="checkbox"/> Everyone thinks highly of her teaching. (= they think her teaching is very good)
<input type="checkbox"/> Which of these cheeses do you like most ?	<input type="checkbox"/> You can be justly proud of your musical achievements. (= rightly; justifiably)
<input type="checkbox"/> They cut short their holiday when Lina fell ill. (= went home early)	<input type="checkbox"/> Her novels are now mostly out of print. (= most of them)
<input type="checkbox"/> The door was wide open so I just went straight in. (= completely)	<input type="checkbox"/> We mostly go on holiday to France. (= usually)
	<input type="checkbox"/> The speaker will be arriving shortly (= soon). Please take your seats.
	<input type="checkbox"/> You won't have any problems getting the book. It's widely available. (= in many places)

Exercises

71.1 Rewrite the italicised words using a **-ly** form of the participles in the box. If a **-ly** form isn't possible, use a prepositional phrase or a preposition + related noun. **A**

agitated anticipated despaired determined disappointed
organised relaxed repeated reputed satisfied

- I warned him *again and again* of the dangers on the mountain, but he insisted on going on.
- The class was out of control and he put his head in his hands *feeling that he could do nothing*.
- As his mother took the roast chicken out of the oven, Rod licked his lips *because he was looking forward to eating it*.
- It is *said to be*, *although no one knows for certain*, the smallest post office in the country.
- 'Still no news from Paul,' she said *in a sad way*.
- He ran the company *in a calm way* and rarely let anything annoy him.
- She shook her head *as if she had made a firm decision*.
- When he had finished the painting, he looked at it *in a way that showed he was happy*.
- Vicky runs the office *carefully and tidily*, so I don't think we should change things now.
- Sofia paced about *in an anxious way* as she waited to go into the interview.

71.2 Complete the sentences with suitable pairs of adverbs from C. Use the form with **-ly** in one sentence and the form without **-ly** in the other. **C**

- What she hated was having to get up at 5:30 every morning.
 - We don't go out much in the evening. We watch television.
- The firm paid compensation, but stopped of admitting they were to blame.
 - The book is due to be published
- I'm not in my office at the moment, but if you leave your name and number I'll get back to you [Message on a telephone answering machine]
 - I used to have to change in Amsterdam to get to Moscow, but now I can fly
- I got very little sleep on the flight, but I felt awake when I arrived in Tokyo.
 - French is spoken in North Africa.
- She is one of the most regarded researchers in the university.
 - We could just see the plane flying overhead.

71.3 Correct any mistakes in these sentences. If there are no mistakes, write ✓. **A-C**

- The rise in car crime in the area is deeply worrying.



- She waved friendly to me.
- Cut the onions up finely and fry them with garlic.
- I asked the boys to move their bicycles off the football pitch but they flat refused.
- I couldn't understand what he was saying. He didn't speak very clearly.
- He was accused of behaving cowardlily in the battle.
- Pierre Evene manufactured the glass for which the town became just renowned.
- I called Elena and she slow turned to face me.
- Spread some butter on the bread as thin as possible.
- The prime minister was loud applauded by her audience.