

Adjectives and Adverbs (1) (*quick/quickly*)

A

Look at these examples:

- Our vacation was too short – the time passed very **quickly**.
- The driver of the car was **seriously** injured in the accident.

Quickly and **seriously** are *adverbs*. Many adverbs are made from an *adjective* + *-ly*:

<i>adjective:</i>	quick	serious	careful	quiet	heavy	bad
<i>adverb:</i>	quickly	seriously	carefully	quietly	heavily	badly

For spelling, see Appendix 6.

Not all words ending in *-ly* are adverbs. Some *adjectives* end in *-ly* too, for example:

friendly lively elderly lonely silly lovely

B

Adjective or adverb?

Adjectives (*quick/careful*, etc.) tell us about a *noun*. We use adjectives before nouns and after some verbs, especially *be*:

- Tom is a **careful** driver. (*not* a carefully driver)
- We didn't go out because of the **heavy** rain.
- Please **be** quiet.
- I was disappointed that my test results were so **bad**.

Adverbs (*quickly/carefully*, etc.) tell us about a *verb*. An adverb tells us how somebody does something or how something happens:

- Tom **drove** carefully along the narrow road. (*not* drove careful)
- We didn't go out because it was **raining** heavily. (*not* raining heavy)
- Please **speak** quietly. (*not* speak quiet)
- I was disappointed that I **did** so badly on the test. (*not* did so bad)

We also use adjectives after the verbs *look/feel/sound*, etc. (see Unit 96C):

- Why do you always look so **serious**?

Compare:

- She speaks **perfect** **English**
 adjective + *noun*

- Why don't you ever take me **seriously**?

- She **speaks** **English** **perfectly** .
 verb + *object* + *adverb*

Compare these sentences with *look*:

- Tom **looked** sad when I saw him. (= he seemed sad; his expression was sad)
- Tom **looked** at me **sadly**. (= he looked at me in a sad way)

C

We also use adverbs before adjectives and other adverbs. For example:

reasonably cheap	(<i>adverb</i> + <i>adjective</i>)
terribly sorry	(<i>adverb</i> + <i>adjective</i>)
incredibly quickly	(<i>adverb</i> + <i>adverb</i>)

- It's a **reasonably** cheap restaurant, and the food is **extremely** good.
- Oh, I'm **terribly** sorry. I didn't mean to push you. (*not* terrible sorry)
- Maria learns languages **incredibly** quickly.
- The test was **surprisingly** easy.

You can also use an adverb before a *past participle* (*injured/organized/written*, etc.):

- Two people were **seriously** injured in the accident. (*not* serious injured)
- The meeting was very **badly** organized.

Exercises

97.1 Complete the sentences with adverbs. The first letters of each adverb are given.

1. We didn't go out because it was raining h eavily .
2. Our team lost the game because we played very ba _____ .
3. I had no trouble finding a place to live. I found an apartment quite ea _____ .
4. We had to wait for a long time, but we didn't complain. We waited pat _____ .
5. Nobody knew Steve was coming to see us. He arrived unex _____ .
6. Mike stays in shape by playing tennis reg _____ .

97.2 Put in the right word.

1. The driver of the car was seriously injured. (serious / seriously)
2. I think you behaved very _____ . (selfish / selfishly)
3. Kelly is _____ upset about losing her job. (terrible / terribly)
4. There was a _____ change in the weather. (sudden / suddenly)
5. Everybody at the party was _____ dressed. (colorful / colorfully)
6. Linda likes wearing _____ clothes. (colorful / colorfully)
7. She fell and hurt herself quite _____ . (bad / badly)
8. These pants started coming apart after I wore them only once. They're _____ made. (bad / badly)
9. Don't go up that ladder. It doesn't look _____ . (safe / safely)
10. He looked at me _____ when I interrupted him. (angry / angrily)

97.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the box. Sometimes you need the adjective (*careful*, etc.) and sometimes the adverb (*carefully*, etc.).

careful(ly)	complete(ly)	continuous(ly)	financial(ly)	fluent(ly)
happy/happily	nervous(ly)	perfect(ly)	quick(ly)	special(ly)

1. Our vacation was too short. The time passed very quickly .
2. Tom doesn't take risks when he's driving. He's always _____ .
3. Sue works _____ . She never seems to stop.
4. Amy and Eric are very _____ married.
5. Nicole's English is very _____ , even though she makes lots of mistakes.
6. I cooked this meal _____ for you, so I hope you like it.
7. Everything was very quiet. There was _____ silence.
8. I tried on the shoes, and they fit me _____ .
9. Do you usually feel _____ before exams?
10. I'd like to buy a car, but it's _____ impossible for me at the moment.

97.4 Choose two words (one from each box) to complete each sentence.

absolutely	reasonably	unnecessarily
badly	seriously	unusually
completely	slightly	

changed	enormous	planned
cheap	ill	quiet
damaged	long	

1. I thought the restaurant would be expensive, but it was reasonably cheap .
2. Jeff's mother is _____ in the hospital.
3. What a big house. It's _____ .
4. It wasn't a serious accident. The car was only _____ .
5. The children are normally very lively but they're _____ today.
6. When I returned home after 20 years, everything had _____ .
7. The movie was _____ . It could have been much shorter.
8. A lot went wrong during our vacation because it was _____ .