ENGLISH, LITERACY, AND COMMUNICATION

Adverbs

Difficulty level: Easy

English, Literacy, and Communication

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Overview of the concept

This is how you explain exactly how something happened in your writing. A player ran quickly, a train arrived late, or a friend spoke quietly, and the adverb is the word that carries that detail. Without it your reader knows what happened, but not how, and the how is often the interesting part.



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Worked examples

EXAMPLE 1

Q Find the adverb in: She ran quickly.

SOLUTION

Find the verb: 'ran'.

Ask: how did she run? Quickly.

So the adverb is 'quickly'.

EXAMPLE 2

Q Find the adverb in: He arrived yesterday.

SOLUTION

Find the verb: 'arrived'.

Ask: when did he arrive? Yesterday.

So the adverb is 'yesterday'.

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Practice questions

1 The librarian spoke softly so no one would wake the baby. Which word tells you how the librarian spoke?

- A spoke
- B librarian
- C softly
- D baby

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2 We will visit Grandma tomorrow. Which word tells you when we will visit?

- A We
- B visit
- C tomorrow
- D Grandma

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3 The lost puppy searched everywhere for its owner. Which word tells you where the puppy searched?

- A searched
- B puppy
- C owner
- D everywhere

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4 Which sentence uses an adverb to tell HOW something happened?

- A She ran quickly.
- B She ran yesterday.
- C She ran home.
- D She ran.

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5 I almost dropped the eggs on the way home. Which word tells you how close I came to dropping them?

- A eggs
- B almost
- C dropped
- D home

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6 Pick the adverb that best completes the sentence: 'The choir sang ___.'

- A beautiful
- B beautifully
- C beauty
- D beautifulness

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7 In 'Put your shoes here', the word 'here' tells you more about which word?

- A shoes
- B door
- C put
- D you

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8 We often walk to school together in the morning. Which word tells you how often we walk?

- A school
- B walk
- C often
- D morning

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9

True or false: in 'He arrived yesterday', 'yesterday' tells you how he arrived.

A True

B False

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Which sentence has NO adverb?

A The turtle crossed slowly.

B The choir sang beautifully.

C The dog barked loudly.

D The cat slept.

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ANSWER KEY

1. softly

2. tomorrow

3. everywhere

4. She ran quickly.

5. almost

6. beautifully

7. put

8. often

9. False

10. The cat slept.

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