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ENGLISH MODULE

UNIT 4



ADVERB AND ADVERBIAL PHRASE

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ADVERB AND ADVERBIAL PHRASE

1. Understanding

- Adverb is a word that describes or gives more information about a verb, adjective, adverb, or phrase
- An adverb phrase
 - Consists of one or more words. The adverb is the head of the phrase and can appear alone or it can be modified by other words. Adverbs are one of the four major word classes, along with nouns, verbs and adjectives
 - An adverbial phrase is a group of words that act together as an adverb, giving more information about a verb, adjective, or other adverb in a sentence. The adverbial phrase answers the same questions as a regular adverb: how/how, much, when, or where

2. Example

In the examples the adverb phrases are in bold. The other words that modify the adverb are underlined:

- We **usually** go on holiday in August.
- Time goes **very quickly**.
- The day passed **quickly enough**.
- This works **really well for its size**.
- **Luckily for us**, the cost was not so high. We kept the new money **quite separately from what we'd already collected**.

3. Adverb phrases: types and meanings

An adverb phrase can consist of one adverb or an adverb plus other words before it (premodification) or after it (postmodification). Adverb phrases have many different meanings.

In the examples the adverb phrases are in bold. The other words that modify the adverb are underlined.

example	type	used to give information about	Adverbs
We walked very carefully across the floor.	manner		<u>accurately</u> <u>beautifully</u> <u>expertly</u> <u>professionally</u>
		how something happens	<u>anxiously</u> <u>carefully</u> <u>greedily</u> <u>quickly</u>
			<u>badly</u> <u>cautiously</u> <u>loudly</u> <u>quietly</u>

example	type	used to give information about	Adverbs			
<i>Here is where I was born.</i>	place	where something happens	<i>Nearby There upstairs</i>			
<i>That's it. Right there.</i>						
<i>Dad got home very late.</i>	time	when something happens	<i>already</i>	<i>lately</i>	<i>still</i>	<i>tomorrow</i>
			<i>early</i>	<i>now</i>	<i>soon</i>	<i>yesterday</i>
			<i>finally</i>	<i>recently</i>	<i>today</i>	<i>yet</i>
<i>This pill will take away the pain temporarily.</i>	duration	how long something happens	<i>Briefly</i>	<i>temporarily</i>		
<i>They almost never invite people to their house these days.</i>	frequency	how often something happens	<i>100%</i>			<i>0%</i>
			<i>Always</i>	<i>Usually</i>	<i>often</i>	<i>Sometimes</i>
				<i>Occasionally</i>	<i>Hardly ever</i>	<i>never</i>
				<i>/normally</i>		
A: <i>Want some sugar in your coffee?</i>	focusing	something specific	<i>especially</i>	<i>just</i>	<i>mainly</i>	<i>particularly</i>
B: <i>Only <u>half</u> a spoon, please.</i>			<i>generally</i>	<i>largely</i>	<i>only</i>	<i>simply</i>
<i>That dog behaves incredibly stupidly!</i>	degree	how much or to what degree something happens	<i>absolutely</i>	<i>enough</i>	<i>perfectly</i>	<i>somewhat</i>
			<i>a (little) bit</i>	<i>entirely</i>	<i>pretty</i>	<i>terribly</i>
			<i>a lot</i>	<i>extremely</i>	<i>quite</i>	<i>too</i>
			<i>almost</i>	<i>fairly</i>	<i>rather</i>	<i>totally</i>
			<i>awfully</i>	<i>highly</i>	<i>remarkably</i>	<i>utterly</i>
			<i>completely</i>	<i>lots</i>	<i>slightly</i>	<i>very</i>
<i>The train will probably be late.</i>	certainty or necessity	how certain or necessary something is				
<i>It doesn't necessarily mean that.</i>			<i>Definitely</i>	<i>surely</i>	<i>probably</i>	<i>certainly</i>
			<i>undoubtedly</i>			

		used to give information about	Adverbs
example	type		
Unfortunately for me , I can't speak Italian.	evaluative	the speaker's opinion of something	Surprisingly
Personally , I don't see why the party has to start so early.	viewpoint	the speaker's perspective or reaction	personally
It rained very heavily this summer. Therefore , many of the vegetables were very small.	linking	relationships between clauses and sentences	then, however

4. Adverb phrases: functions

Adverb phrases + verbs

We use adverb phrases most commonly to modify verbs. In the examples the adverb phrases are in bold. The verbs that they modify are underlined:

Children grow up **really quickly**.

I exercise **very regularly** and I eat **quite healthily**.

Adverb phrases + *be*

We use adverb phrases with *be*. This is especially typical of adverbs of place:

I 'm **upstairs**. I'll only be a minute.

A: Have you seen my gloves?

B: They're **right there**, on the table.

Adverb phrases + adjectives/adverbs

We use adverb phrases (adv) to modify adjectives and other adverbs:

I found it [ADV]extremely [adjective]difficult to talk to her.

He drives [ADV]really [ADV]carefully.

Adverb phrases + other phrases

We use adverb phrases (adv) to modify noun phrases (np) and prepositional phrases:

That's [ADV]quite [NP]a tree. (it's a tree that is special in some way, e.g. it's very big)

There was [ADV]hardly [pronoun] anyone at the concert.

We climbed [ADV]right [prepositional phrase] over the top of the hill and down again.

Adverb phrases + determiners

We use adverb phrases to modify determiners, especially words like *all, some, half, many* (quantifiers):

Only half of my friends could come to my party.

Very few people have heard of my city. It's very small.

EXERCISES 1

Underline the adverb phrases in the following sentences.

Notes: An adverb phrase is a group of words that serves the same purpose as an adverb.

1. She lives in a palatial home.
2. Is there water on the moon?
3. She ran into her room.
4. They chatted for a while.
5. She performed the task with great skill.
6. The desert stretched towards the north.
7. The gun went off with a loud noise.
8. The fishers went sailing over the sea.
9. He lay beside the heap of corn.
10. She whispered in his ear.
11. He fought with all his might.
12. He shouted at the top of his voice.
13. It must be done at any cost.
14. Much water has run under the bridge.
15. Without pausing to consider he struck the blow

EXERCISE 2

Underline the adverbial phrase. On the line, write the question it answers.

1. We expect our grandparents to arrive
in about an hour. _____
2. My cousin watches television
almost as much as you do. _____
3. The weatherman says it will rain
all day. _____
4. Your brother plays soccer
better than my brother does. _____
5. Our friend drives
on Mondays. _____
6. Stacy and Nancy will walk
on the sidewalk. _____
7. The snake slithers
through the tall grass. _____
8. Mom combs my hair
more gently than Dad does. _____
9. He found his lucky penny
in the morning. _____
10. We raced our toy cars
on the playground. _____
11. Shayla and Coral were reading their books
in the car. _____
12. The music teacher played the piano
better than her student. _____
13. Jenny tried to talk to Peter
underneath the water. _____
14. Early in the morning
the air is cold and fresh. _____
15. Mom will pick us up
after school is out. _____
16. Jan will run
on the track at school. _____

References:

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http://www.k12reader.com/adverbs/Adverb11_Adverbial_Phrases.pdf