

# Introduction to Grammar, continued...



# ADVERBS

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- Adverbs describe and modify or change other words, just as adjectives do.
- HOWEVER, instead of *describing things*, they *describe actions & qualities*.
- Adverbs *qualify* the meanings of verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.
- For example:
  - How did the runner run?
  - How deep was the snow?
  - How well did the singer sing?
- Adverbs have the answers to all these questions!

# Example



- He played guitar skillfully.
- He played guitar dreadfully.
- He played guitar passionately.

# Features of Adverbs

1. Many adverbs end in *-ly*
2. Adverbs modify
3. Placement of adverbs
4. Adverbs and comparisons

**Purposefully**

*Passionately*

**Abundantly**

*Happily*

Gratefully

**Fearlessly**

**CONFIDENTLY**

Courageously

**Playfully**

Spontaneously

*Creatively*

**RESPECTFULLY**

Faithfully

# (1) Many adverbs end in *-ly*

- Many adverbs are formed by adding *-ly* to an adjective.
- Ex: lovely, ugly, sadly, happily, briefly, easily, truly.
- **Warning:** *-ly* ending does not guarantee a word is an adjective!

Adjective		<i>-ly</i> Ending		Adverb
Quiet	+	ly	=	Quietly

# HOW?

## Is or was it done?

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- Rules about adverbs:
  1. Use adverbs sparingly b/se they cause wordiness and awkwardness
  2. Beware of words ending in *-ly* that are not adverbs
    - Examples: lovely, lonely, ghastly, and worldly
    - These examples do not answer the question HOW?
    - These examples are really adjectives!
  3. Always go back to the HOW? Rule

HOW? Is/was it done?

## (2) Adverbs Modify

- When you use an adverb, you modify or change the meaning of a verb, an adjective, or another verb.
- Modify verb
  - Ex: Good drivers turn the corner **slowly**.
- Modify adjective
  - Ex: **Really** good drivers turn that corner slowly
- Modify adverb
  - Ex: Good drivers turn that corner **very** slowly



## (3) Placement of Adverbs

- Adverbs modifying verbs can *usually* be moved around in a sentence w/out changing the meaning.
- Before verb
  - Ex: The car **immediately** stopped.
- After verb
  - Ex: The car stopped **immediately**.
- Adverbs that modify adjectives or other adverbs *belong right in the front of the words they modify*.
- Before adjective
  - Ex: That's an **extremely** dangerous corner for bicycle riders.
- Before adverb
  - Ex: The car turned the corner **really** quickly.



## (4) Adverbs and Comparisons

- Regular adverbs

Fast	Faster	Fastest
Early	Earlier	Earliest
Rapidly	More rapidly	Most rapidly
Easily	More easily	Most easily

- Irregular adverbs

Badly	Worse	Worst
Far	Farther	Farthest
Well	Better	Best

# Confusing adverb pairs

Adverb	Well	Badly	Really	Surely
Adjective	Good	Bad	Real	Sure

- Examples:
  - Her test results were good.  
(adjective linked to *results*)
  - She did well on her test.  
(adverb modifying verb *did*)