

Adverbs



Grammar in Context

Theme: Sports

Words by Theme



Read the following interview and answer the questions.

Yuan, a famous female volleyball player, gave an interview to a reporter.

Reporter: I feel sorry to hear that you've **recently** lost the World Cup¹. How did you feel?

Yuan: I was **terribly** disappointed. However, I've learnt my lesson² from it. I've known my weaknesses³ **better**, and I'm now working **really hard** to overcome⁴ them.

Reporter: How has your coach⁵ helped you tackle these problems?

Yuan: Our coach was a **very** experienced⁶ player. **Lately**, she's been teaching me different techniques⁷ **every day**. She **scarcely** scolds me and **always** gives me full support.

Reporter: Then how will you prepare for the Asian Championship **next month**?

Yuan: I'm practising the footwork drills frequently at present. I'm having very intense⁸ weight training twice a week. Doing it less often allows my muscles⁹ to recover¹⁰ more quickly. Besides, we're going to play friendly matches¹¹ with teams from other countries next week so that we can be really tough not only physically¹² but also mentally¹³.

Reporter: I'm glad to hear that. I'm sure your supporters will root for you and your team.

1. Complete the table by writing *verbs, adjectives or adverbs*.

Adverbs of degree	Give more information to ...
(i) <i>really</i>	
(ii) <i>very</i>	
(iii) <i>scarcely</i>	

2. Look at **Yuan's answer to the last question** and complete the table by writing the correct adverbs and adverbial phrases.

(i) Adverbs of manner	more quickly		
(ii) Adverbs of degree			
(iii) Adverbs and adverbial phrases of frequency and time	frequently		



PART 1 Adverbs of manner

We use adverbs of manner to show how something happens.

- Sam answered the question *loudly*. (*Loudly* tells us how the question was answered.)
- Ms Burton walked *quietly* in the library. (*Quietly* tells us how Ms Burton walked.)

Adverbs of manner give extra information about verbs.

Positions	Examples
After the main verb	The cellist plays <i>softly</i> .
After a short object	The cellist plays the piece <i>softly</i> .
Before the main verb	The cellist <i>softly</i> plays <u>the piece composed by Chopin</u> .

long object



We form adverbs of manner from adjectives. We follow the rules:

Situations	Formation	Examples
Most adjectives	+ <i>ly</i>	<i>slow</i> → <i>slowly</i> <i>polite</i> → <i>politely</i>
Adjectives ending in a consonant + <i>-le</i>	<i>-e</i> + <i>y</i>	<i>gentle</i> → <i>gently</i> <i>horrible</i> → <i>horribly</i>
Adjectives ending in <i>-y</i>	<i>-y</i> + <i>ily</i>	<i>easy</i> → <i>easily</i> <i>busy</i> → <i>busily</i>
Irregular adjectives	Change the whole word	<i>good</i> → <i>well</i>
	No change	<i>fast</i> → <i>fast</i> <i>hard</i> → <i>hard</i> <i>late</i> → <i>late</i> <i>early</i> → <i>early</i>



Exercise 1.1

If the sentence is correct, put a tick (✓). If not, correct the sentence.

- The soldiers ~~horribly~~ ^{horribly} suffered. ()
- I arranged tidily the room. ()
- Read the instructions carefully. ()
- The kind woman pats her son gently. ()
- The contestant performed one of the most difficult songs in history nervously. ()



Exercise 1.2

Complete the sentences using the correct form of the given words.

- My brother quickly (quick) understood how the machine worked.
- Toby rejected the unreasonable suggestion _____ (angry).
- The old couple are looking _____ (deep) into each other's eyes.
- I slept _____ (good) last night. What about you?
- The tide rises _____ (fast). Check out the tide times before going to the sea cave.
- A spy always acts _____ (calm) and _____ (sensible) in dangerous situations.
- I can get up _____ (early) even though I stay up _____ (late).



More to take away

piece (n.) = something that an artist, a musician or a writer has created

Error Diagnosis

We use *in a ... way / manner* to form adverbial phrases of manner from adjectives ending with *-ly*.

Matthew danced silly / sillily. ✗

Matthew danced *in a silly way*. ✓

Ms Cole greets the guests friendly / friendlily. ✗

Ms Cole greets the guests *in a friendly manner*. ✓

We do not use adverbs of manner after linking verbs. We use adjectives instead.

It	is / feels / smells / tastes / sounds / becomes / seems / looks	badly. ✗
		bad. ✓

sweet

The ice-cream tastes sweetly. ✗

nice

John, you look nicely today! ✗

Let's compare

These pairs of adverbs come from the same adjectives, but they have different meanings.

The chef works *late*. (= after the planned time)

The chef has been busy *lately*. (= recently)

Uncle Bob works *hard*. (= with great effort)

Uncle Bob *hardly* rests. (= almost not)

Helen always aims *high*. (= opposite of low)

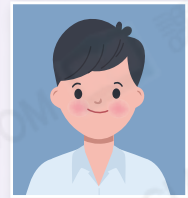
Helen is a *highly* successful person. (= very)

Exercise 1.3

Ms Brown is writing comments on report cards. Complete the comments using the correct form of the given words.

loud good attentive careful late stern smart
high early careless easy friendly hard brilliant

Michael is a (1) brilliant student. He looks (2) _____ in his neat uniform. He comes to school (3) _____ and greets his teachers and classmates (4) _____. He listens (5) _____ in class. He studies (6) _____ and always aims (7) _____. He does his homework (8) _____ and seldom makes mistakes. He performs (9) _____ in piano competitions and has won several prizes.



Date: 10 July 20XX

Signature of Parent / Guardian: _____

Alice always misses the school bus and arrives (10) _____ to school. She loses concentration (11) _____. She does sums (12) _____ and failed the mathematics exam. She chats (13) _____ in class and disturbs others. The principal warned her (14) _____ but she did not show improvement.



Date: 10 July 20XX

Signature of Parent / Guardian: _____



Exercise 1.4

Daisy is telling her friends about an incident she came across during her trip in the UK. Complete what she says using the correct form of the given words.

fast hard hearty late heavy immediate nice safe careful

I was travelling from Leeds to Edinburgh. The weather seemed (1) _____ nice _____ at first, but then it started to snow (2) _____. I could (3) _____ see anything outside the train. I looked at my watch. The train was running half an hour behind schedule. I thought it was due to the bad weather. When the train stopped at York, I read the rail map (4) _____. I suddenly realised that I needed to change trains. I walked (5) _____ to the train doors but it was too (6) _____. I (7) _____ called my uncle. Fortunately, he could pick me up because he happened to be nearby. Finally, we (8) _____ arrived in Scotland after driving for four and a half hours and we had dinner there (9) _____.



PART 2 Adverbs of degree

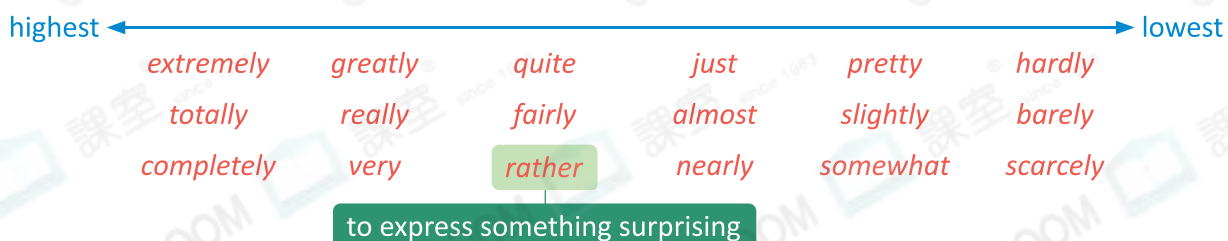
We use adverbs of degree to strengthen or weaken an action, a quality or a manner.

- The old man can **hardly** run.
- The old man was **quite** weak after the accident.
- The athlete runs **very** fast.
- The Olympic medalist runs **extremely** fast.

We can use adverbs of degree before adjectives, verbs or other adverbs.

	Positions	Examples
Before	an adjective	The necks of giraffes are pretty / quite / rather long.
	the main verb	His wife barely / quite / really / somewhat enjoyed the musical.
	an adverb	I hurt my leg extremely / quite / somewhat / very badly.

Some examples of adverbs of degree are as follows:



Exercise 2.1

Put **^** where appropriate to insert the given words.

- Leo speaks Korean. He understands the lyrics of the Korean songs.
- Maya plays squash well, but not good enough to beat the champion.

completely

quite

3. The problem is complicated. He decided to consult the professor.
4. I can concentrate on my homework. Please turn off the music.
5. Mr Brown works hard to achieve his goal.
6. Molly hates doing the dishes. She bought a dishwasher.
7. The passengers on the ship found it impossible to sleep.

somewhat

barely

extremely

really

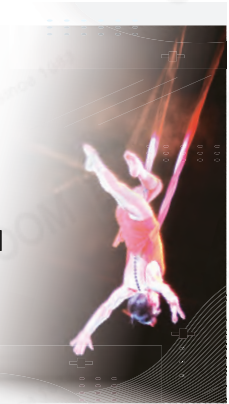
almost



Exercise 2.2

Ryan is drafting an advertisement for a circus. Circle the best answers.

The Magic Circus has entertained over three million fans around the world! Here, you will hear the (1) (very / hardly) light-hearted music and laugh with the (2) (quite / really) funny clowns. Also, you will be (3) (fairly / extremely) thrilled by our acrobats and jugglers. **Mr Baker** walks a tightrope (4) (steadily / steady) high above the ground. **Ms Evans** can (5) (skilfully / skilfully) throw and catch several balls at the same time. **Mr and Mrs Lewis** can do the flying trapeze. Mr Lewis first (6) (greatly / completely) lets go of a horizontal bar, then flies at full speed through the air and (7) (firmly / loosely) holds the arms of Mrs Lewis.



PART 3 Adverbs of frequency and time

We use adverbs of frequency to show how often something happens.



Positions	Examples
Before the main verb	<i>The cat often takes naps.</i>
After the helping verb	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The cat is always miaowing for attention.</i> ▪ <i>Clara has seldom seen the cat so active.</i> ▪ <i>The cat can never get enough of sleep.</i>
After the main verb	<i>Clara is always busy with chores.</i>
In front position	<i>Sometimes, Clara plays with the cat.</i>
In end position	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Clara takes the cat to the vet occasionally.</i> ▪ <i>Eva walks her dog every day / daily.</i>

More expressions

monthly / once a month

annually / once a year

twice a week / two times a week

We use adverbs and adverbial phrases of time to show when something happens. We usually put them at the end or at the beginning of a sentence.

Past	Present	Future
<i>The day before yesterday / Yesterday / Three days ago / Last night / This evening, Eva fell ill.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The weather is nice today.</i> ▪ <i>I am revising now / at the moment.</i> 	<i>Eva will do the grocery tomorrow / tomorrow morning / next week / a few days later.</i>



Exercise 3.1

Complete the sentences with the help of the given words.

last night – not sleep – well – she	her – miss – always – we
the world – ghosts – roam – annually	brush – you – your teeth – twice a day – if
go – to – never – he – the beach	four times last week – but – basketball – he – play
you – at home – find – can – him – rarely	travel – to – next month – Thailand – Thomas

- Oliver is afraid of water. He never goes to the beach.
- Rosie had a nightmare. _____.
- _____, you will reduce the risk of tooth decay.
- _____. Let's ask him to get us some spa products.
- It is believed that _____ in the seventh lunar month.
- He travels a lot. _____.
- David seldom does sports, _____.
- We cannot believe our favourite teacher is leaving us. _____.



Exercise 3.2

Louise is reading a short story. Complete some of the sentences in the story using the given words.

as many as
quizzes and dictations
she paid attention in class
taking things from her



a family of tiny fairies living in the attic of her dormitory

every day
never
three times a week
one day
always

When Anna was 12, she was sent to the most prestigious boarding school.

- She had quizzes and dictations every day.
- She got bored and _____.
- She skipped classes _____.
- She found _____.
- They were _____.

Let's compare

every day (= each day)

I take out the trash every day. (adverb)

Every day is a new beginning. (noun phrase)

everyday (= regular)

Taking out the trash is my everyday task. (adjective)

everyday + noun



More to take away

attic (n.) = a space just below the roof, often used for storing things

dormitory (n.) = a large room for several people to sleep in

Grammar Wrap-up

Bonnie is reading an article in a newsletter. Complete the article using the given words.

patiently really usually lately fast easily
sometimes hardly completely every week highly

Hong Kong Lifestyle

November Issue

Best Pottery Workshops to Get You Creative

Have you ever felt the need to relax **(1)** completely? Are you looking for a fun activity to do with your family and friends? Making pottery has become a popular pastime in Hong Kong **(2)** _____ . Let's look at some of the best pottery workshops in the city.

We **(3)** _____ recommend Three Parts Studio in Sheung Wan and Clay Experimental Gallery in Mong Kok. In these studios, the staff will **(4)** _____ explain the basic techniques of painting on hard clay in different shapes such as bowls, plates and cups. After the briefing, you can start painting. The paint dries up **(5)** _____ , so you need to finish your work quickly. **(6)** _____ , a session lasts for only two hours. The staff will then collect your painted object and bake it.

If you want to make your own pottery, The Little Pot Factory in Tuen Mun and Mud Lab in Kwun Tong would be the best for you. They give classes for beginners **(7)** _____ . **(8)** _____ , but not often, there are special workshops at weekends. Since the instructions from the staff there are clear, you will learn the basics **(9)** _____ and have no difficulty making your first work. The course is **(10)** _____ intense. You will **(11)** _____ have time to take a selfie!

Get crafty and make your own pottery now!



Brain Breaks

What do we call a pottery maker with a lot of hair?

Answer: hairy potter (a pun on Harry Potter)



Grammar in Pre-DSE Text Type

Theme: Sports

You are writing an encyclopaedia entry about adventure sports. Complete the entry using the correct form of the given words.

rare serious never dangerous perfect thrilling high
unique extreme usual good safe incredible quite

Words by
Theme



Article **Talk** Read **Edit** Search CRpaedia

Adventure Sports for Thrill Seekers

From CRpaedia, the powerful encyclopaedia

Adventure sports, also known as action sports or extreme sports¹, require an **(1)** extremely high fitness² level. They also involve high risks³. In other words, they can be very **(2)** _____. However, they are **(3)** _____ exciting at the same time.

The participants⁴ of most extreme sports are **(4)** _____ young, aged around 30 years old on average. They **(5)** _____ try this kind of sports on their own. Instead, they **(6)** _____ practise⁵ in groups under the guidance of a coach.

Hong Kong's **(7)** _____ landscapes are **(8)** _____ spots for adventure sports. Here are some examples:

Coasteering

Coasteering is for **(9)** _____ experienced hikers who look for a more gruelling activity. It involves climbing, jumping and swimming along the coastline and around rocky coastal slopes. Participants can explore the city's magnificent shoreline. For beginners⁶, it takes a lot of practice to scramble **(10)** _____. They need to be skilled at swimming in open waters and be fearless of waves too.



Mountain Biking

Mountain biking enables bikers to ride down steep slopes **(11)** _____. Tai Mo Shan, the highest mountain in Hong Kong, is a great place for this exciting activity. It is best to go there for a ride in autumn. Its breathtaking view **(12)** _____ disappoints.

Bikers can become **(13)** _____ injured with one wrong move. Therefore, it is wise to hire an instructor⁷ who will make the ride as **(14)** _____ as possible.

More to take away

gruelling (adj.) = difficult and tiring

scramble (v.) = to climb over rocks using your hands without ropes

We use adverbs to give more information about verbs, adjectives, other adverbs or clauses. They help us describe someone or something precisely.

- Leo **admitted** his mistakes **honestly**. (modify the verb)
- Your car looks **quite modern**. (modify the adjective)
- Mum cooks **rather well**. (modify another adverb)
- **Three years ago, he was quiet**. He **seldom spoke**. (modify the clause and the verb)

Version 1

Dylan is reading the biography of a kitesurfer. Read the article and pay attention to the underlined parts.

100 Water Sports Biographies to Read

Liam Whaley: World Champion of Kitesurfing at 18

Liam Whaley is a famous Spanish kitesurfer. He was born in 1996 on Ibiza, a small island off the coast of Spain. He became the world champion of kitesurfing at 18.

(1) Liam started doing water sports when he was only a child. He took his first lesson of kitesurfing at eight and **(2)** became interested in the sport to a high degree. When he turned 13, his family moved to Tarifa, Spain. Known as Europe's wind capital, **(3)** it is windy at all times. **(4)** There he trained with great effort in an ideal environment with elite athletes. Some of the best surfers were Gisela Pulido and Alex Pastor. This training allowed him to **(5)** upgrade his skills at a high rate and grow professionally.

Liam has received a lot of prizes in different competitions. In 2011, he entered the Spanish Kitesurfing Championship. **(6)** He won the competition without difficulty. He then became the Junior Champion in Europe. This gave him confidence to take part in the PKRA Kitesurfing World Tour. **(7)** The tour is held once a year. He got two second places in 2013. By the end of that year, he ranked fourth in the world at the age of 16. Finally, he became the world champion in 2015. He was only 18 that year.

(8) I didn't dream of being a world champion, Liam said. 'Since I won the world championship, I've realised that there is much more to life.' **(9)** At the present period, he is still competing and training as a kitesurfer. Apart from that, he is also keen on making videos and travelling around the world to meet new people.

As Liam continues to pursue his career in kitesurfing, he is getting more famous and is attracting international attention. His fans around the world **(10)** keep looking forward to the next steps of this young sports star.

Version 2

Rewrite the underlined parts using the given adverbs.

100 Water Sports Biographies to Read

Liam Whaley: World Champion of Kitesurfing at 18

Liam Whaley is a famous Spanish kitesurfer. He was born in 1996 on Ibiza, a small island off the coast of Spain. He became the world champion of kitesurfing at 18.

(1) Liam started doing water sports early. (early) He took his first lesson of kitesurfing at eight and (2) _____ (extremely).

When he turned 13, his family moved to Tarifa, Spain. Known as Europe's wind capital, (3) _____ (always). (4) _____ (hard) in an ideal environment with elite athletes. Some of the best surfers were Gisela Pulido and Alex Pastor. This training allowed him to (5) _____ (rapidly).

Liam has received a lot of prizes in different competitions. In 2011, he entered the Spanish Kitesurfing Championship. (6) _____ (easily)

He then became the Junior Champion in Europe. This gave him confidence to take part in the PKRA Kitesurfing World Tour. (7) _____ (annually)

He got two second places in 2013. By the end of that year, he ranked fourth in the world at the age of 16. Finally, he became the world champion in 2015. He was only 18 that year.

(8) _____ (never),

Liam said. 'Since I won the world championship, I've realised that there is much more to life.'

(9) _____

(today) Apart from that, he is also keen on making videos and travelling around the world to meet new people.

As Liam continues to pursue his career in kitesurfing, he is getting more famous and is attracting international attention. His fans around the world (10) _____ (always).