

## ADVERB:

An **adverb** is a word which modifies the meaning of a verb, an adjective or an adverb. For example

Rama runs quickly.

Govinda reads quite clearly.

### Kinds of Adverb

#### (a) According to meaning

1) **Adverbs of Time** : They are the adverbs which tell us when an action takes place. For example,  
I shall meet you tomorrow.

**Rule** : Time adverbs cannot be used in the present perfect, instead the past indefinite is used for them.

*Incorrect* : I have seen a 3D movie last night.

*Correct* : I saw a 3D movie last night.

2) **Adverbs of Place** : They are the adverbs which tell us where an action takes place. For example,  
He left his bag there.

3) **Adverbs of Manner** : They are the adverbs which tell us how an action takes place or in what manner. For example, Gautam Buddha left his family stealthily.

4) **Adverbs of Frequency** : They are the adverbs which tell us how often an action takes place. For example, The Delhi Police is always with you .

5) **Adverbs of Degree or Quantity** : They are the adverbs which tell us how much or in what degree or to what extent. For example,  
I have pleaded enough and now I give up.

**Rule** : The adverb "so" as an adverb of degree must not be used absolutely.

*Incorrect* : He is so rich.

*Correct* : He is very rich.

**Rule** : That "should not be used instead of " so "as an adverb".

*Incorrect* : He went only that far.

*Correct* : He went only so far.

**Rule** : The adverb "too" should not be used instead of "very" or "much" and vice versa.

*Incorrect* : She is too intelligent.

*Correct* : she is very intelligent.

**Rule** : Much is used with past participles used as adjectives not with present participles.

*Incorrect* : The match became much interesting.

*Correct* : The match became very interesting.

**Rule** : Adverb of degree comes just before the adjective it qualifies.

*Incorrect* : He too is weak to run.

*Correct* : He is too weak to run.

They are so honest that they cannot tell a lie.

6) **Adverbs of Affirmation and Negation** : They are the adverbs which tell us whether an action is done or not. For example,  
He has not left the place.

7) **Adverbs of Reason** : They are the adverbs which tell us why an action takes place. For example,  
She therefore decided to be a rich woman.

#### (b) According to use

1) **Simple Adverb** : It only modifies some words (verb, adjective or an adverb). All the above examples belong to this category.

2) **Interrogative Adverb** : It not only modifies some words but also introduces a question. For example, How did you come here?

**Rule :** Some adverbs have two forms, the form ending in-ly and the form which is the same as adjective. For example, loud, quick, high, hard, near, late, pretty.

*Incorrect:* He fought hardly for the No. 1 spot.

*Correct:* He fought hard for the No. 1 spot.

*Similarly, Incorrect:* It would hard rain today.

*Correct :* It would hardly rain today.

### Comparison of adverbs :

**Rule :** If the adverb is of one syllable, the comparative is formed by adding-er and the superlative by addingest to the positive.

*Incorrect :* The hare ran more fast than the dog.

*Correct :* The hare ran faster than the dog.

**Rule :** Adverbs ending in -ly form the comparative by adding more and the superlative by adding most.

*Incorrect :* The petrol price hike issue has been debated hotlier than the urea scam.

*Correct :* The petrol price hike issue has been debated more hotly than the urea scam.

### Position of adverbs :

**Rule :** Adverbs of manner, place and time are generally placed after the verb or after the object if there is one.

*Incorrect:* He wrote last year a book.

*Correct:* He wrote a book last year.

**Rule :** When there are two or more adverbs after a verb (and its object), the normal order is; adverb of manner, adverb of place, adverb of time.

*Incorrect:* I read the proof yesterday meticulously at home.

*Correct:* I read the proof meticulously at home yesterday.

**Rule :** Adverbs of frequency and most of the adverbs of quantity are

i) normally put between the subject and the verb if the verb consists of only one word;

ii) put after the first word if there is more than one word in the verb;

iii) put after the verb if the verb is am/are/is/was/were;

### Some more rules :

**Rule :** Two negatives should not be used in the same sentence unless we wish to make an affirmation.

*Incorrect:* she did not despise none of her lovers.

*Correct:* She did not despise any of her lovers.

**Rule :** Ever should not be used for never.

*Incorrect:* She seldom or ever has sweet talks with her son.

*Correct:* She seldom or never has sweet talks with her son.

**Rule :** Else should be followed by but.

*Incorrect:* It is nothing else than fatigue.

*Correct:* It is nothing else but fatigue.

**Rule :** Never should not be used for not.

*Incorrect:* She met her friend after a long time and her friend never recognised her.

*Correct:* She met her friend after a long time and her friend did not recognise her.

### Exercise :

**Directions:** Find out the error in each of the following sentences, if any. If there is no error, the answer is 'd'.

1. She behaved in a cowardly manner (a)/ before the headmaster (b)/ and

hesitated to do the work. (c)/ No error (d)

2. The girl refused (a)/ not to (b)/ return the articles. (c)/ No error (d)

3. The real important thing (a)/ of our life is our livelihood (b)/ which discriminates us from animals. (c)/ No error (d)

4. She is too much beautiful (a)/ so most of the boys (b)/ run after her and

10. We were very much (a)/ carefully in our approach (b)/ and hence we would complete the complicated task. (c) No error (d)

**Answers..**

1. d; No error

2. b; Omit the word "not"

3. a; Replace "real" with "really"

4. a; Replace "too much" with "very"

5. c; Replace "fluently French" with "French fluently"

6. c; Replace "whole-hearted" with "whole-heartedly"

7. c; Replace "nice" with "nicely"

8. a; Replace "fastly" with "fast"

9. b; Replace "hardly" with "hard"

10. b; Replace "carefully" with "careful"