

IIT Madras BSc Degree

Copyright and terms of use

IIT Madras is the sole owner of the content available in this portal - onlinedegree.iitm.ac.in and the content is copyrighted to IIT Madras.

- Learners may download copyrighted material for their use for the purpose of the online program only.
- Except as otherwise expressly permitted under copyright law, no use other than for the purpose of the online program is permitted.
- No copying, redistribution, retransmission, publication or exploitation, commercial or otherwise of material will be permitted without the express permission of IIT Madras.
- Learner acknowledges that he/she does not acquire any ownership rights by downloading copyrighted material.
- Learners may not modify, publish, transmit, participate in the transfer or sale, create derivative works, or in any way exploit, any of the content, in whole or in part.



English-II (Advance English) Dr Om Prakash Guest Faculty

Humanities and Social Sciences

Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, Chennai Adverb- A Quick Review

Welcome to class; we are going to talk about adverbs today. And a very quick review of it. So, we would not be discussing in detail the concept called adverbs, grammatical categories. But we will have very quick, and you know functional details of adverbs in English.

(Refer Slide Time: 0:40)



An adverb is a word, or a set of words, that modifies verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs. Now, if you look at the word adverb, it adds to the verb. It expresses when, where and how an action is performed or indicates the quality of degree of the action. For example, a sentence like Shelley is always ready for help. The word always here; he loved her very much, very much. The combination of two words, time is running out fast.

That it adds to the verb fast, the word fast adds to the verb or run, I gave that willingly. Again, willingly the word adds to the verb gave. So, adverbs is a word or group of words. That adds to or modifies, or gives us additional information about verbs, adjectives and other adverbs and indicates how the action is being performed, how the verb is being performed so that recall adverbs.



(Refer Slide Time: 2:26)



And adverb clauses and adverb phrases, adverb clauses and adverb phrases are clauses and phrases that modify the verbs and adjectives and other adverbs in a sentence; it is at a sentential level. So, for example, we know sentences like he carried the load until he was tired. It is a complete clause until he was tired a full sentence, until he was tired a complete clause that, you know, modifies the verb in the sentence.

The second example of the same something like you know. Maya arrived, carrying her suitcases with two hands. So, carrying her suitcases with two hands, the entire chunk modifies the arrival of Maya, that it adds to you know the information of the verb arrive in the sentence. Something like you know, you are irritated without any reason, without any reason, is an adverb phrase, which modifies the verb irritated. So, adverb clauses and adverb phrases are clauses and phrases which modify the verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs in the sentence.



(Refer Slide Time: 3:58)



Moving on, we will go by a very generic classification of adverbs because I told you that I will be talking about the functional aspect of adverbs very quick review of that. So, will have a generic classification of adverbs, like you know, adverbs of manner. So, it talks about how the action is being performed. Adverbs of degree, it talks about how much adverbs of place or direction he talks about where or in what direction.

Another category is adverbs of time or frequency. So, when the time and how often the frequency, sentence adverbs there are some adverbs which come at the beginning of a sentence and they take an entire sentence in its scope. And modifies entire sentence. So, they are called sentence adverbs, will have a series of example. And then conjunctive adverbs where they work as a linker. And linked the clauses. So, these are generic classification of adverbs, will go to each of them one after the other.



(Refer Slide Time: 5:27)



So, will start with adverbs of manner; how. So, it talks about how, so look at the example something like you know, we should distribute the workload equally. So, the word equally talks about the manner of distribution. So, this modifies the verb distribute, and this is an adverb of manner, something like hold it carefully.

So, it is an imperative sentence to hold it carefully the word carefully as an adverb, which adds to the verb hold something like you know, he is improving slowly. So, the manner of improvement, which is slow, so, slowly the word adds on to modifies the verb improve. So, he is improving slowly.

For example, like you know, Maya runs very fast. Fast is an adverb that adds to the verb run. So, Maya runs very fast. So, these are the adverbs like equally like carefully, like slowly, like fast, they add to the verb of the corresponding sentences, and they give us the information about the manner in which the action is being performed by the agent or the subject of the sentence. So, that is a manner of, adverbs of manner, how the action is being performed.

It is easy to identify words such as adverbs in sentences if we keep an eye on the ending of the word, for example, like beautifully. So, beautifully is an adjective beautifully, adverb, equally, equally is an adjective equally ly I have written, which makes it an adverb, this are adverb forming suffixes. Thankfully, carefully, handily, quickly, coldly, Hotly, resentfully, earnestly, nicely, tirelessly, etc; even continue the list, the list continues our common adverse of minor, and there is adverbs usually and in suffix ly.



So, I hope you get this, and it quickly identifies these adverbs. So, you find these adverbs or such words with ly combination at the end of the word, and then adverbs of manner. So, adverbs of manner add to the verb and indicate how the action is being performed, alright.

(Refer Slide Time: 8:37)



Let us move to adverbs of degree, how much. So, adverbs of degree explain or indicate or express the amount or the amount of force, which is being performed, how much? So, look at examples, something like Jessie completely forgot about her appointment. So, Jessie completely forgot her appointment about her appointment completely.

So, it talks about how much degree, degree of forgetting the appointment absolutely, completely. The policemen examine the document thoroughly. So, the word thoroughly adds to the examination of the document by police. So, police is an agent. The action being performed in this case in the sentence is examining the document.

And what the degree thoroughly, so thoroughly as an adverb, adds to the verb examine, indicating the degree how much so thoroughly. She was so excited about the new place. So, very excited about a new place, adverb, I hardly go to the theatre. So, hardly as an adverb indicates that I do not go to the theatre often. So, the degree of my going to the theatre, it is indicated in this sentence. So, the degree of adverbs of degree tells us how much, how often.

So, we have to distinguish between this -ly, like completely, that we talked about in adverbs of manner, but here, the same ending thoroughly completely, they are adverbs of degree. So, when you have the how much question like how much? And if it answers, it is an adverb of



degree. So, adverbs that expresses the importance degree or level of action in the sentences are called adverbs of degree, the answer the questions, how much is the action performed, so works like completely, nearly, entirely less, mildly, most, thoroughly, somewhat, excessively, much etcetera, are the common adverbs of degree alright.

(Refer Slide Time: 11:38)

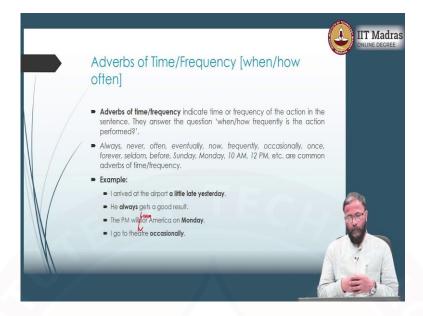


Then, let us move to the third category of adverbs, called adverbs of place, direction alright. So, they like deictic information, distance, direction, or space or the location where the action is being performed. So, if you look at the example such as I went through the jungle, through the jungle acts here as an adverb he works in a bank. In a bank, acts as an adverb; Maya is going to college, so to college, acts as an adverb, we are staying at a goddess. At a goddess, acts an adverb. So functionally, these phrases that we have in bold forms act as adverbs of place in the direction. So, adverbs of place and directions that indicate the place or direction of the action in these sentences and they answer the question, where is the action being performed?

So, location, so something, so some common adverbs or place, or directional are across, over, under, in, out, through, backward, there, around, here, sideways, upstairs, in the park, in the field, in the place, etc. They are very common adverbs of place or directions. Because they add on to the verb, which and they indicate what is the location where the action is being performed? And in what direction. So, they are called adverbs of place or direction.



(Refer Slide Time: 13:38)



We move to another category, adverbs of time or frequency. So, when how often such questions are answered, by such words in a sentence, and they are called adverbs of time and frequency of the action, though they talk about the timing and the frequency of the action, how often the action is being performed.

So, something like you know, I arrived at the airport a little late yesterday. Yesterday, again, an adverb of time, a little late yesterday, that talks about the time of my arrival at the airport. It adds to the verb arrive. He always gets a good result, or something like the PM will leave. I am sorry, the word leave is missing here. Let us put it here.

The PM will leave for America on Monday. I go to the theatre occasionally. So, the words like a little late, yesterday, he always gets a good result, the PM will leave for America on Monday. So, Monday occasionally, always, little late, yesterday. So, words like yesterday. They are adverbs of time and frequency. So, they answer questions like when or how often.

So, some common adverbs of time and frequency are like always, never, often, eventually, now, frequently, occasionally, once, forever, seldom, or any day, Sunday, Monday, whatever point of time or day of you refer to 10 AM 12 such words in the sentence act as an adverb of time or frequency. So, we need to keep these things in mind.



(Refer Slide Time: 15:58)



Another category of adverbs, sentence adverbs, and why do you call it sentences adverbs because they take an entire sentence in their scope. So, the entire predicate in their scope. So, hopefully, I will finish the assignment. So, this word hopefully takes the entire sentence and the action being performed in the predicate into its scope. And they usually occur at the beginning of the sentence. So, hopefully, I will finish the assignment.

Apparently, the days are getting hotter. Certainly, you did not consider asking for my permission. So, words like hopefully, apparently, certainly, occur in the beginning of the sentence and take the entire sentence into their scope. So, they are being topicalized. They are being fronted in the beginning of the sentence. And these adverbs take an entire sentence in the scope.

When you say they take the entire sentence in the scope, that means the meaning is governed and controlled by the placing of these adverbs at the beginning of it. And the entire sentence undergoes the influence of these adverbs. So, they are modifying the entire sentence. So, adverbs indicating the attitude and point of view of the speaker or writer usually go at the beginning. These adverbs are called sentence adverbs because they are referred to as whole sentence or utterance.

So, you know, something like you know, let us say actually I think the meeting is on Wednesday. Like, obviously, there was like, obviously, actually, hopefully, apparently, certainly, they are sentence adverbs, which are fronted brought in front of the sentence, and



they take entire sentence into its scope. And because we take an entire sentence in their scope for meaning and interpretation. They are known as sentence adverbs.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:23)



Moving on to conjunctive adverbs, another category of adverbs, conjunctive adverbs, and what do they do? They connect independent clauses and phrases. And they also represent the transition of ideas, and they also indicate a relationship. So, the transition of ideas relationship and they work as a connector. So, some examples like the train is started very late nonetheless, it arrived at destination on time. Now, look at this, this word, nonetheless. So, it makes the first sentence you know, and then the second sentence to be linked together it links these two sentences together.

And it provides the idea that even if the train was late, it did not delay and arrived on time. So, these two contradictory things, one starting very late and the other arrival on time, these are two contradictory ideas that are linked. So, at the level of idea and at the level of structure as well, if you see, the train is started very late, full stop.

So, full-sentence alone independent sentence. If I say the train arrived at the destination on time, again a full sentence, complete sentence, and absolutely no connector required. But when we put these two sentences together, we need to have a connector that connects them, like coordinate conjunctions like and we use in English.

So, for example, I reached home, and I changed my clothes, two actions linked together. Here this linker nonetheless acts as a connector for these two sentences, full sentences,



independent sentences, which work as they have an independent meaning, but they are being connected. And it indicates the transition between ideas, and it shows the relationship between these two clauses. The train started very late. Nonetheless, it arrived at its destination on time. So, two contradictory ideas connected together.

Look at the second example. We are still not sure about x, however, if the opportunity will come. So, the coming of an opportunity is not being seen as Satanity. So, we are not still sure one sentence and opportunity will come another sentence; however, is what is working here as a connector that connects these two clauses. And it shows relationship. The third sentence, like last year, there was little rain, one complete idea one complete sentence. The second sentence, we did not have good harvest, another complete sense another complete sentences, but this two are connected with a word consequently.

That means it is depending, the interpretation of the first is being is depending on the understanding of the sentence one it works as a connector and it is working as a conjunctive adverb because it modifies you on the verb. So, consequently, so consequent upon the less rain last year, the result was that the harvest was not good.

So, last year, there was little rain, consequently, we did not have good harvest. So, here consequently, or however, or nonetheless, such kind of words are adverbs conjunctive adverbs which connect two ideas, which shows the relationship between two ideas, it connects these two ideas expressed in two independent different sentences. And they are called conjunctive adverbs. So, this is about adverbs. And we will continue our discussion and, you know, if you have some questions, we can answer those in the next class in our next videos. Thank you.