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BSc Degree

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English – II (Advanced English)
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Adverbs-Comment, Viewpoint and Focus

Welcome to the class. Today, we will talk about some adverbs. As you know, adverbs describe verbs. Adverbs give additional information about verbs, about things associated with the verb. In general, we know a sentence has two parts as a subject and a predicate. The verb of a sentence or the verb in a sentence is part of the predicate, rather, a very significant part of the predicate.

And when the verb is significant, the verb is significant because everything else within the predicate is about the verb. So, if we take a sentence, John reads a book in the night with his friends after dinner. So, look at the phrases, John reads a book, this is the sentence that is, John is the subject of a sentence reads a book is the predicate where read is the verb and book is the object of the verb.

When we say in the night, so it is about reading. In the night gives information about reading, therefore, it is an adverb. With his friends, again, with his friends is talking about reading, reading with his friends. After dinner, this information is also about reading because reading happens after dinner. So, all kinds of phrases that we add to the predicate they are related to verb in one way or the other. Therefore, verbs are considered powerhouse of a sentence and most important part of a predicate and adverbs describe verbs. As we know, prepositional phrases are adverbial in nature and adverbs; we know about these things.

Now, at this point. So, these are the important points about adverbs. When we want to understand structural aspects of the language and we want to know how our mind produces, how our mind processes input, how our mind processes the language so that we get equipped for yielding structural benefits.

So, when we understand how our mind processes these elements, they have direct yield for our language, that is, when we speak, they show up. This is a tested method, methodology and for the purpose of accuracy, for the purpose of developing accuracy in the process of language there is no alternative.

Your, as you know, as we have mentioned several times and repeated again, accuracy is the foundation of confidence. Communicative competence is important because we want to develop our capacity to communicate with others. In addition, communicative competence can lead to communicative confidence only when we pursue accuracy. Without pursuing and it is redundant to say, nonetheless, I would like to underline without accuracy we do not develop confidence in what do we have to speak about, and we do not win the audience without accuracy.

I am not talking about my belief, but the goal of learning cannot be removed; accuracy cannot be removed from the goal of learning. And I stress the point that for the purpose of achieving accuracy, we need to look at the structure of a sentence, the structure of language, how elements are connected with one another in a sentence in the given language that is the target language.

And when we look at how do we get structural accuracy, and how do we become confident about accuracy in the sentence, naturally, not by memorizing, not by simply practising. Practice is an important aspect of achieving accuracy after a particular age in our life, but not by simply practising. The key point to achieving accuracy is to look at how our mind processes language. Going through that yields accuracy, yields impact, dramatic impact on our accuracy. I just wanted to remind you about these parts.

Now, all other adverbs that you have seen so far they are related to structure. At this stage, we want to remind you or we want to bring certain additional information for you, which are embedded within pragmatic competence. We develop pragmatic competence along with communicative competence and linguistic competence. It is not important here to debate which one comes first and which one comes later; what is important is all three, that is linguistic competence, which is a structure, communicative competence, our ability to use language in our communication and pragmatic competence that is our knowledge, our understanding of the context in which we use language.

Our effort in learning the patterns of uses in the real world, in real society, these things are important, and we are going to bring you certain information from pragmatic confidence, pragmatic part of the language about adverbs. This that we are bringing in today will help brighten up, help sharpen up your language additionally. Please pay attention to some of these aspects.

So, there are different types of adverbs. Some adverbs, which are as words they can be divided in different types like comment adverbs, viewpoint adverbs and focus adverbs. There could be more, but we are talking about three. What are they, and how they work and what they add to our language is what we are going to discuss below.

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Comment Adverbs

Comment adverbs	Examples
Indicates likelihood	Apparently, certainly, clearly, definitely, in theory, obviously, presumably, undoubtedly
Indicate our attitude or opinion	Astonishingly, frankly, generally, honestly, to be honest, interestingly, luckily, naturally, in my opinion, personally, sadly, seriously, surprisingly, unbelievably
Show our judgement of someone's action	Bravely, carelessly, foolishly, generously, kindly, rightly, stupidly, wisely, wrongly

Comment adverbs can occur in front, middle or end of the sentence. Sometimes, comment adverbs are applicable to the whole sentence, in which case, we usually separate from the rest of the sentence with a comma.



So, what are comment adverbs? It indicates likelihood. So, examples of words which work at adverbs, like, apparently, certainly, clearly, definitely. So, these are the '-ly' type of adverbs, so you can identify them clearly. But then, in theory, obviously, presumably, undoubtedly and a lot of them are '-ly' type of adverbs.

So, they indicate likelihood, they indicate our attitude or opinion, like astonishingly, frankly, generally, honestly, to be honest, interestingly, luckily, naturally, in my opinion, personally, sadly, seriously, surprisingly, unbelievably, and these are just a few words. They are a lot in number, abundantly available in language a very productive pattern in English.

And so, what they show, some of them show our judgement of someone's action. So, like bravely, carelessly, foolishly, generously, kindly, rightly, stupidly, wisely, wrongly, these are some of the verbs, some of the adverbs. So, comment adverbs can occur anywhere in the sentence that is in the initial position, anywhere in the middle of the sentence or also at the end of the sentence.

And at times, commented adverbs are also applicable to the whole sentence in which case we usually separate them with the rest of the sentence as a comma. So, when they come in the

beginning, we put a comma and then we begin the rest of the sentence. So, let us see how we use them in a sentence and what the what how some of them work.

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Example

1. The plane apparently overshot the runway after landing.
2. Your plan sounds fine in theory, but will it work?
3. Presumably, he speaks Spanish.
4. In my opinion, he is one of the best students in the class.
5. Honestly speaking, I don't care what the world thinks.
6. She obviously wants you to stay.
7. Please give generously to the Blue Cross.
8. Frankly, I'm not surprised her family disowned her.



But important point is to understand the list. Look at our examples that we are giving you and then use these words in your examples. Definitely, please, definitely try to make three to four sentences with each one of these adverbs for yourself for your practice, and you please try to pay attention to these things when these terms occur in the language of the other people when they speak the language. They are, they enrich our language, they add flavour to our language and therefore, they yield a nice impact on making our language impressive.

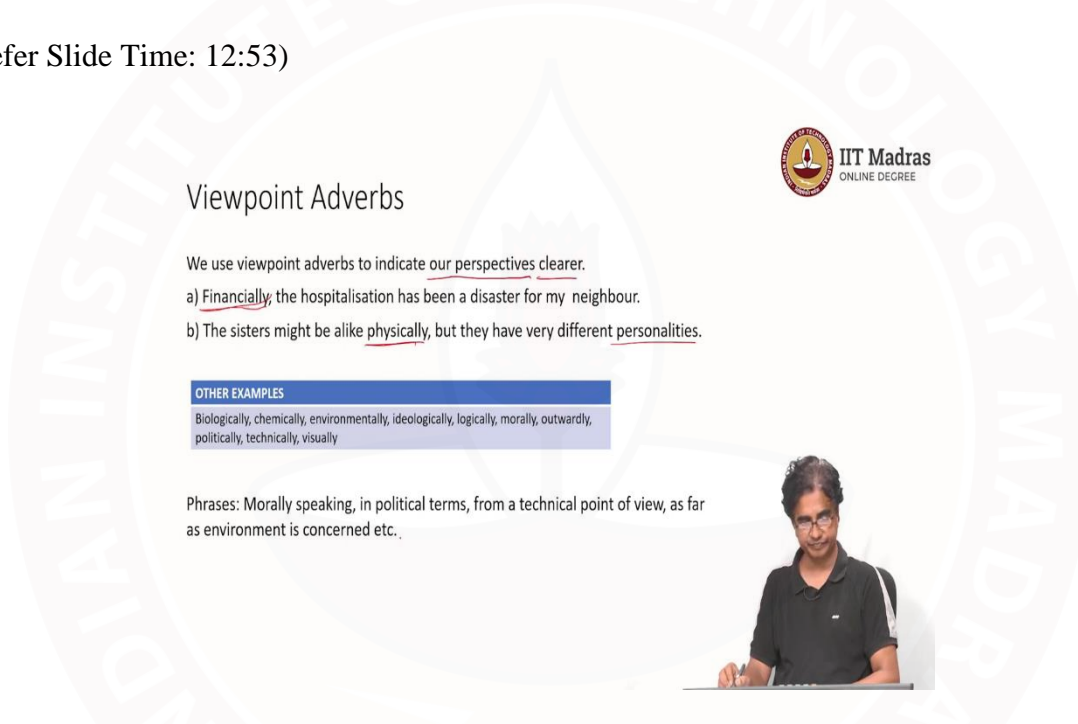
Here are a few examples. The plane apparently overshot runway after landing. Now, here, the word apparently is one of this type of adverb that we were discussing. It is not in the beginning of the sentence, it is somewhere else in the middle of the sentence, but this is the plane apparently overshot the runway after landing, a very dangerous thing to do. Nonetheless, what does this sentence mean? This is just adding a comment. It is not really sure, it does not talk about certainty, but it just adds a comment.

Your plan sounds fine in theory, but will it work? So, your plan sounds fine, but will it work it? It is a fine sentence, but when we add in theory we are trying to justify. It is by adding a comment that the planes plan sounds good. Presumably, he speaks Spanish, not sure, but we are using it in the beginning and therefore we are using a comma presumably, he speaks Spanish.

In my opinion, he is one of the best students in the class. In my opinion, look at it whenever it comes in the beginning we put a comma, again, it is adding a comment. Honestly speaking, I do not care what the world thinks. It sounds like an angry person, but a good sentence. Honestly speaking, I do not care what the world thinks. She obviously wants to stay, so obviously, again, here add comments on the situation.

She obviously wants you to stay. Please give generously to the Blue Cross. Here. Again, it is a comment. Frankly, comment in the beginning, therefore a comma, I am not surprised her family disowned her. Maybe it has some meaning in the context, but please pay attention to the uses of these words, which are comment adverbs.

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Viewpoint Adverbs

We use viewpoint adverbs to indicate our perspectives clearer.

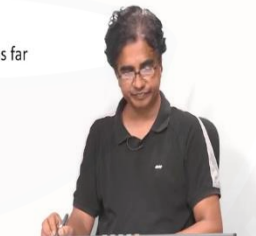
a) Financially, the hospitalisation has been a disaster for my neighbour.

b) The sisters might be alike physically, but they have very different personalities.

OTHER EXAMPLES

Biologically, chemically, environmentally, ideologically, logically, morally, outwardly, politically, technically, visually

Phrases: Morally speaking, in political terms, from a technical point of view, as far as environment is concerned etc.,



Some of them are like viewpoint adverbs. Like when we say biologically, chemically, environmentally, ideologically, logically, morally, outwardly, politically, technically, visually. visibly, these are viewpoint adverbs. I mean, you can always pick another word for that we found it as viewpoint.

So, we use these to indicate perspectives, naturally, the perspective of the speaker and for the purpose of clarity. So, financially the hospitalization has been a disaster for my neighbours. So, when we say something like this, we are adding a viewpoint for the hospitalization has been a disaster for my neighbour, how, financially.

The sisters might be alike physically, but they have to be different personalities. Again, this is a point of view, adverb, and there are so many of them as I read the list. For you again, I add

my footnote here that please make several sentences. Just for the purpose of using them in your own sentences and see how they work.

Try saying do not make random sentences; try saying something that you would want to say and use these adverbs in those sentences. So, when we use morally speaking and these phrases in political terms from technical point of view, as part as far as environment is concerned, etc, these are also, they also become viewpoint adverbs.

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Examples

1. What you did was not illegal, but it was morally wrong.
2. Much of our behavior is biologically determined.
3. Outwardly the couple appeared happy.
4. Technically, the two countries are still at war.
5. He certainly was not politically inactive.



More examples are, what you did was not illegal but was morally wrong. So, it adds again, have a viewpoint, much of our behaviour is biologically determined. It is a, this is a phrase from language learning also, but a good sentence in general. Outwardly, the couple appeared happy. So here, I am sorry, here is the adverb. Technically, the two countries are still at war, he certainly was not politically inactive here, we have two adverbs, certainly and politically, so these are viewpoint adverbs.

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Focus Adverbs – Only

'Even' and 'only' usually go in mid position of a sentence. But if they refer to the subject, they may come before it.

a) My brother has only brought some books. (He didn't get anything else other than books).

b) Only my brother has brought some food. (It is my brother and nobody else).



Some words can be used as focus words or focus adverbs. So, some of them are like even and only. And at this point, I do want to add a footnote here that the use of these words in our English that is Indian English, is very different from how it is used in American English or British English.

So, we also need to pay that in mind, the position, that is position of these words for occurring in a sentence is sort of fixed in other terms. It has a completely different function in Indian English, and I am going to describe it from our perspective, from Indian English perspective. And this is one term where we can make a distinction between Indian English and American English or other varieties of English.

Nonetheless, this is an important point for us to notice about our own language. So, usually go in the middle of the sentence that happens in Indian English, but not necessarily in other varieties of English, but if they refer to the subject, they may come before it. So, basically, it local; its impact is local in Indian English. If it talks about the subject of the sentence, then it will precede the sentence, and I will show you some examples of that.

So, look at this, my brother has only brought some books. So here only, the scope of only is on bringing books. The scope of only is not on the previous part of the sentence, which means he did not get anything else, this is the important part. Anything else other than books; that is what I meant by saying it has scope on this.

So, whatever phrase it precedes, it takes that phrase in focus. Only my brother has brought some food. So, here only has a scope over my brother, which means it is my brother, and no one else. So, only my brother has brought some fruit. So, it is largely about the scope and what it takes in its scope, what comes within its scope is something that gets in focus, and that is why this is called a focus adverb.

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Focus Adverb – Even and Alone



- a) Even Liya can speak English. (you might not expect her to)
- b) Liya can even speak German (in addition to everything else that she can do).

When we use 'alone' to mean 'only', it comes after a noun.

- a) It is not possible to pass this exam with luck alone. (need to work hard).



Same thing happens with even. Again, the distribution of even is different. It is a polarity element in English, but the use of it is adverbial in nature and works the way it is demonstrated here in Indian English. So, even Liya can speak English. So, look at this again, the scope of even is for Liya, which where she might not be expected to speak though, speak English. Liya can even speak German. So, when you bring it here, it is the scope of this is the phrase that is immediately following it. So, in addition to everything else, she can do, that is she can speak German.

When we use alone to mean only it comes after a noun. So, a lot of times we replace the word we use alone, as a phrase in Indian English as an adverb, to replace this, but in such a case it follows the sentence that is it is not possible to pass this exam with luck alone. So, the point is, if we use this word, then it comes at the end of it, end of the phrase, with luck, if you want to use only you have to say it is not possible to pass the exam only with luck. So, that is the, these are some of the descriptions about these focus adverbs, commented adverbs, and viewpoint adverbs and commented adverbs.

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Viewpoint Adverbs

We use viewpoint adverbs to indicate our perspectives clearer.

- a) Financially, the hospitalisation has been a disaster for my neighbour.
- b) The sisters might be alike physically, but they have very different personalities.

OTHER EXAMPLES

Biologically, chemically, environmentally, ideologically, logically, morally, outwardly, politically, technically, visually

Phrases: Morally speaking, in political terms, from a technical point of view, as far as environment is concerned etc.



Please try to incorporate them. Please try to work with them, practice with them to make your writing and speaking more effective, more impressive. I am sure it works. Thank you so much, until we bring something new next time. Bye, bye.