

UNIT 3

Adjectives - Adverbs - Comparisons

Sprinters run **quickly**. They wake up **early** in the morning and train **hard** all day.

- ◆ Adverbs usually describe verbs, adjectives, other adverbs or sentences.

- ◆ An adverb can be one word (**carefully**) or a phrase (**in the morning**). Adverbs can describe manner (how), place (where), time (when), frequency (how often), degree (to what extent), etc.

- e.g. a) He drives **carefully**. (How does he drive? Carefully. - adverb of manner)
 b) Your bag is **here**. (Where is it? Here. - adverb of place)
 c) They'll leave **tomorrow**. (When will they leave? Tomorrow. - adverb of time)
 d) He **sometimes** goes fishing at the weekend. (How often does he go fishing? Sometimes. - adverb of frequency)
 e) She is **very** polite. (How polite is she? Very. - adverb of degree)

- ◆ We usually form an adverb by adding -ly to the adjective.

e.g. *serious* - *seriously*

- ◆ Adjectives ending in -le drop the -e and take -y.
e.g. *gentle* - *gently*

- ◆ Adjectives ending in consonant + y drop the -y and take -ily.
e.g. *happy* - *happily*

- ◆ Adjectives ending in -l take -ly.
e.g. *awful* - *awfully*

- ◆ Adjectives ending in -ic usually take -ally.
e.g. *dramatic* - *dramatically* But: *public* - *publicly*

- ◆ Adjectives ending in -e take -ly.
e.g. *polite* - *politely* But: *true* - *truly*

- ◆ The following words end in -ly, but they are adjectives: *elderly*, *cowardly*, *friendly*, *likely*, *deadly*, *lively*, *lonely*, *silly*, *ugly*, *lovely*, etc.

e.g. She's a **lively** child.

We use the words **way/manner** to form their adverbs.

e.g. She greeted me **in a friendly way/manner**.
 He complained **in a cowardly way/manner**.

- ◆ The adverbs **loud(ly)**, **cheap(ly)**, **quick(ly)**, **tight(ly)**, **fair(ly)** and **slow(ly)** are often used without -ly in everyday English.

e.g. Come here **quick/quickly**.

- ◆ Some adverbs have the same form as adjectives. These include: **hard**, **fast**, **free**, **high**, **low**, **deep**, **early**, **late**, **long**, **near**, **straight**, **right**, **wrong**. Also **hourly**, **daily**, **weekly**, **monthly** and **yearly**.

e.g. The lake is **deep**. (adjective)

They went **deep** into the forest. (adverb)

These biscuits are very **hard**. (adjective)

He tried **hard** in order to succeed. (adverb)

'Bella Donna' is a **weekly** magazine. (adjective)

It comes out **weekly**. (adverb)

- ◆ The adverbs below have two forms, each with a different meaning:

- The treasure was buried **deep** underground. (= a long way down)
 He is **deeply** in love with her. (= very)
- The hotel guests can use the swimming pool **free**. (= without payment)
 The animals in the safari park can roam **freely**. (= without limit or restriction.)
- The kite flew **high** in the sky. (= at/to a high level)
 He is a **highly** respected doctor. (= very much)
- She arrived **late** for the meeting. (= not early)
 He hasn't been feeling well **lately**. (= recently)
- Which of his songs do you like **most**? (= superlative of much)
 I'm **mostly** interested in modern art. (= mainly)
- As he came **near**, I realised that something was wrong. (= close)
 She **nearly** fainted when she heard the news. (= almost)
- He is a **pretty** strange man. (= rather)
 The bridesmaids were **prettilly** dressed in pink. (= in a pretty way)
- He is working **hard** these days. (= with a lot of effort)
 They **hardly** go anywhere now that they have children. (= almost never)

Note: **Hardly** has a negative meaning and is often used with: **any**, **anyone**, **anywhere**, **anything** and **ever**.

Underline the correct item.

- 1 This is a pretty/**prettily** complicated situation.
- 2 They had **hard**/**hardly** been home for a minute when the phone rang.
- 3 My friends are **most**/**mostly** vegetarians.
- 4 Her loose outfit allowed her to move **free**/**freely**.
- 5 The shelf was so **high**/**highly** that he couldn't reach it.
- 6 John may be **late**/**lately** home tonight, as he has a lot of work to do.
- 7 The room was **pretty**/**prettily** decorated.
- 8 Children under five years old travel **free**/**freely**.
- 9 Sue has **near**/**nearly** finished her homework.
- 10 They have been going out a lot **late**/**lately**.
- 11 This college is **high**/**highly** recommended for its range of courses.
- 12 The miners dug **deep**/**deeply** to find coal.
- 13 The new supermarket is very **near**/**nearly** our house.
- 14 He is **deep**/**deeply** involved in the scandal.
- 15 We found it **hard**/**hardly** to get used to living in a foreign country.
- 16 Which of Mel Gibson's films do you like **most**/**mostly**?

Underline the correct item.

It was Lucy's birthday and she was very 1) sad/**sadly**. She had been waiting 2) **hopeful**/**hopefully** all morning for the postman to arrive. 3) **Sudden**/**Suddenly**, the letterbox rattled 4) **gentle**/**gently** and an envelope fell 5) **soft**/**softly** onto the doormat. Picking it up, Lucy noticed 6) **miserable**/**miserably** that it was a bill. There were no cards, no presents and no 7) **pretty**/**prettily** bouquets of flowers. Lucy 8) **near**/**nearly** burst into tears. Just then, there was a 9) **loud**/**loudly** knock on the door. Opening the door 10) **slow**/**slowly**, Lucy saw all her friends holding 11) **brightly**/**bright** wrapped gifts and shouting 'Happy Birthday'. Lucy 12) **immediate**/**immediately** cheered up and greeted her friends 13) **warm**/**warmly**.