**Adverbs – Reading Material**

**Overview:**

Some words rush their way through and before you realize have become you, a part of your personality. Recently I discovered that 'Absolutely' is my favorite one. In one of Ellen DeGeneres Show; the American Television Talk show, a 5 year old kid became famous overnight as he used the word 'apparently' 7 times within a minute. He's called the ' Apparently famous kid'.

I can in fact associate certain words with people, like for ex, 'basically Rohit' or 'Supposedly Ritu'. Are you one of them? These words add description and make conversations more detailed and interesting. I'm referring to Adverbs.

**Objectives:**

This reading material is designed to help you:

* Understand the functional usage of adverbs and its different types
* Make your conversations and sentences more detailed and so much more interesting.

**Adverbs**

Adverbs are words that are used in sentences to describe or change the meaning of a Verb or Adjective or even another Adverb. They add description to the sentence to make it more detailed and interesting.

Examples:

He walked **slowly** across the square.

Here, one can see that the Adverb ‘slowly’ is describing the Verb ‘walk’ by telling that the

person was walking slowly.

**Types of Adverbs**

Adverbs are used in sentences to answer many questions about the Verbs / Adjectives / Adverbs themselves. The different types of Adverbs are as following:

**Adverb of Time**

E.g.: The results were announced **yesterday**.

Here the Adverb is **yesterday** which is answering the question: **When** were the results announced? ‘Announced’ is the verb in this sentence.

She will visit the hospital **tomorrow**.

Here the Verb is ‘visit’ and the Adverb is **tomorrow** as the question being asked is: **When**will she visit the hospital?

Other examples of Adverbs of Time are – Once, Never, Tomorrow, Daily etc.

**Adverb of Place**

E.g.: They will meet you **there**.

The Adverb here is **there** that is specifying a place for the Verb meet and the question being answered is: **Where** will they meet you?

In spring, flowers bloom **everywhere**.

Here the Verb is bloom and the Adverb is **everywhere,** answering the question:**Where** do the flowers bloom in spring?

Other examples of Adverbs of Place are - Anywhere, Somewhere, Near, Far etc.

**Adverb of Manner**

E.g.: He **quietly** slipped away.

The Adverb here is **quietly** which is telling the way or manner in which the action was carried out and the Verb is slipped which is telling: **How** did he slip away.

She works **fast**.

The Verb here is work and the Adverb is **fast** and the question being asked is:**How** does she work?

These Adverbs tell about the manner of the action being done, whether it is done happily or haltingly etc. Other examples of Adverbs of Manner are - Honestly, Joyfully, Cunningly etc.

**Adverb of Frequency**

He likes to watch TV **every day.**

Here, the Adverb is **every day** and it is telling about the amount of time spent in doing the

Verb, which is watch. The question in this sentence is: **How often** does he watch TV? They meet **every week**.

The Adverb here is **every week** and it is telling the frequency and the Verb ismeet. The

sentence is telling us: **How often** do they meet?

These Adverbs are used to show the duration or timing of the action that is happening/had happened/will happen. They also tell us how often and how long these actions would be. Other examples of Adverbs of Frequency are - Frequently, Often, Yearly, Briefly etc.

**Adverbs of Degree**

She **almost** finished the work.

The Verb here is finished and the Adverb is **almost** which is telling us about the amount of the work finished. The question being asked is: **How much** of the work did she finish?

They were **completely** surprised by the windfall.

The adverb here is **completely** which is showing the degree to which ‘they’

were surprised which is the Verb. The question being asked here is: **How much** were they surprised?

The Adverbs of Degree are used to show to what extent or how much has an action been done or will be done. Other examples of these Adverbs are - Fully, Partially, Altogether etc.

**Adverbs of Confirmation and Negation**

They will **certainly** like this vase.

The Adverb here is **certainly** which is reinforcing the Verb like in answer to the question: **Will** they like this vase?

He **never** leaves his house.

The Adverb **never** is negating the Verb leave. It is answering the question in denial: **Does** he ever leave his house?

These Adverbs either confirm or deny the action of the Verb. They are also used to reinforce the action that is described by the Verb. Other examples of Adverbs of

Confirmation are - Definitely, Absolutely, Surely etc. Examples for Adverbs of Denial or

Negation are - No, Don’t, Can’t etc.

**Adverbs of Comment**

These Adverbs are used to make a comment on the entire sentence. They give a look at the speaker’s viewpoint or opinion about the sentence. These Adverbs don’t just change or describe the Verb; they influence the whole sentence.

They found his secret + unfortunately

**Unfortunately, they found his secret easily.**

Here, we see that adding the Adverb **unfortunately** has changed the entire tone of the sentence. Earlier, it was a passive tone, now it has a negative or disappointed tone.

Other examples of Adverbs of Comment are -

 **Luckily**, the dog did not bite the children.

 **Happily**, the power returned before the big match.

 Did he **honestly** expect me to lie for him? (Adverb adds comment on the anger of the speaker.)

 And they would win the world cup, **obviously**. (Can be said in a sarcastic as well as positive manner)

**Adverbs of Conjunction**

These Adverbs are used to connect ideas or clauses, they are used to show consequence or effect or the relation between the two clauses. To use these Adverbs to conjugate two clauses you need to use a semicolon (;) to connect them.

Clause 1: He was going for an important interview. Clause 2: He made sure he reached on time.

He was going for an important interview**; accordingly**, he made sure he reached on time.

Here, we see how the Adverb ‘**accordingly**’ is joining the two clauses and showing the relation between them with the use of a semicolon (**;**). Accordingly means- therefore or that is why.

A few other Adverbs of Conjunction are –

 **However** - Yet, on the other hand, in spite of

 **Consequently** - As a result, resulting in

 **Moreover** - Beside, in addition

 **Conversely** - Opposite of, contrary to