

ADVERBS (10)

The Position of Adverbs (03)

In context

5 min

Where should the adverb be in a sentence?

Look at the following sentences: observe where the adverb is.

Now, I must leave.

I must leave *now*.

I *often* go to the theater.

I am *always* tired.

I have *already* told you that.

The Position of Adverbs

15 min

The position of an adverb depends on the kind of adverb and on the element it modifies. This element can be a verb, an adjective, another adverb or an entire sentence.

Modified Element	Position of the Adverb	Kind of Adverb	Examples
Entire sentence	beginning or end	place	Stay <i>there!</i> <i>There</i> you are.
		time	<i>Today</i> , I'm happy. / I'm happy <i>today</i> .
		manner	<i>Slowly</i> , she drove away. / She drove away, <i>slowly</i> .
		connection	<i>However</i> , I am not satisfied. / I am not satisfied <i>however</i> .
		viewpoint	<i>Surely</i> , I agree. / I agree, <i>surely</i> .
		interrogative	<i>When</i> is the appointment? I want to know <i>when</i> .
Verb	before the verb, but after the first auxiliary	frequency	I <i>never</i> lie. You should <i>never</i> have lied.
		quantity	I <i>totally</i> agree. We have <i>almost</i> completed the project.
	after 'to be'	frequency	It was <i>never</i> easy.
		quantity	It is <i>completely</i> empty.
	after the verb	well, early, late, right, left...	He paints <i>well</i> . She arrived <i>late</i> .
Adjective, Adverb	before the modified element	intensity	I am <i>very</i> happy. They were <i>terribly</i> sorry. She drives <i>incredibly</i> slowly.

These are guidelines, there can be exceptions.

Sometimes we can have two adverbs in a sentence. If there are an adverb of place and an adverb of time, the adverb of place comes first.

Example:

I went *there yesterday*.

Language Tip: also / too / as well

5 min

They have similar meanings but are positioned differently:

- also: between the subject and the verb: I **also** ate a banana.
- too: after the modified element: I ate a banana **too**.
- as well: at the end of the sentence: I ate a banana **as well**.

Language Tip on Adverbs: Different Positions for Different Meanings

5 min

For some adverbs, when the position changes, the meaning of the sentence changes as well.

Example:

'even' is used before the modified element:

Even Sue cried. = everybody cried, even Sue, who usually does not.

Sue **even** cried. = Sue was sad to the point that she cried.

Writing Exercise

5 min

Put the words in the correct order.

1. often / I / to / Chile / travel

2. I / cannot / conference / unfortunately / attend / the / tomorrow

3. Chinese / she / as well / speaks / English / and

4. the / saw / even / I / Queen

5. too / ride / went / boat / we / on / a

6. also / ride / went / boat / we / on / a

7. always / there / wanted / I / go / have / to

8. you / never / listened / him / have / should / to

9. teacher / with / I / disagree / absolutely / the / surprisingly

10. tomorrow / here / I / be / will

Writing Exercise

5 min

Rephrase the sentences using the adverb prompted.

Example: I agree 100%. (totally) → I totally agree.

1. I manage a team too! (also)

2. My boss takes a vacation once in a blue moon! (rarely)

3. I wait for him all the time. (always)

4. I have sent the email to Heather as well. (also)

5. Most of the time, I go to the same gas station. (usually)

6. I would love to go to Asia someday. (never)

7. Do you go to the cinema every month? (often)

8. Have you ever met him? (before)

9. Look, she is coming! (there)

10. It is 98% full. (nearly)

Reading Exercise with the Teacher

5 min

Read these sentences to your teacher. Then, add adverbs to them. Do not use the same adverb twice.

Example: I like chocolate → I *really* like chocolate.

1. I get frustrated when I have to wait a long time.
2. This boy is tall for his age.
3. He understands.
4. My grandfather drives.
5. His wife is happy.
6. Liars upset me.
7. I am sorry.
8. I agree.
9. She will do what she wants.
10. The police are investigating the case.

Speaking Exercise with the Teacher

5 min

Listen to your teacher's questions and answer using adverbs.

Example: How do you like horror movies? → I *honestly* hate them.

1. How do you feel about protecting the environment?
2. Do you think men will ever walk on the moon again?
3. Do you believe in investing in the stock market?
4. What do you think about social media websites?
5. How would you feel about paying with your cell phone instead of a credit card in the future?

Watch the Video!

5 min

In this video presentation about emergency preparedness, you will practice the position of adverbs.

Watch the video:

<http://www.5min.com/Video/Easy-Emergency-Preparedness-29162075>

Watch it again and answer the following questions:

1. Complete the text in the video with the missing adverbs:

30 million American children will need emergency care this year. What if your child is one of them? _____, you can take precautions to ensure that, in an emergency, you'll be prepared to take quick action. _____, program an emergency number into your phone under ICE or In Case of Emergency. That will save time, and in case there's an emergency involving you, you can teach _____ young children to use this feature. Make sure that your house street number is _____ visible and that it's well lit at night. This may save precious seconds. It's _____ important to post all medical information for each child. Hang it on the fridge or by the phone, so it's accessible. List any medication your child takes, allergies she suffers from and her current vaccinations. When you're flustered, these emergency tips can save time and _____ your child's life.

2. Among the adjectives you used above to complete the text, which ones are placed just before the adjective they modify?

_____ and _____

Quiz

10 min

True or False?

1. If there are an adverb of place and an adverb of time, the adverb of time comes first. true false
2. The position of an adverb depends on the kind of adverb and on the element it modifies. true false
3. For some adverbs, when the position changes, the meaning of the sentence changes as well. true false
4. An adverb is always between the subject and the verb. true false

Which one is correct: A, B or both?

A	B
1. However, I do not trust the police.	1. I do not trust the police, however.
2. He has almost finished his plate.	2. He almost has finished his plate.
3. She wears always her glasses.	3. She always wears her glasses.
4. I get up in the morning early.	4. I get up early in the morning.
5. The situation is slowly deteriorating.	5. The situation slowly is deteriorating.
6. Certainly, it is a good idea.	6. It is a good idea, certainly.
7. Even my grandmother enjoyed the ride!	7. My grandmother enjoyed the ride even!
8. I don't really know what to say.	8. I don't know really what to say.
9. I don't really know what to say.	9. I really don't know what to say.
10. He well paints.	10. He paints well.