

Lesson 1.21 Adjectives and Adverbs

Some adjectives and adverbs are easy to confuse with one another. Use a predicate adjective after a linking verb (forms of the verb *to be* and verbs like *seem*, *taste*, *grow*, and *become*) to describe the subject. Use an adverb to describe an action verb.

The police dog seemed *proud* to be standing next to Officer Shari.

The police dog stood *proudly* next to Officer Shari.

In the first example, the adjective *proud* follows the linking verb *seemed* and modifies the subject *police dog*. In the second example, the adverb *proudly* modifies the action verb *stood*.

The words *good*, *well*, *bad*, and *badly* are often used incorrectly. *Good* and *bad* are adjectives, and *well* and *badly* are adverbs.

The hot bath felt *good* after such a long hike.

These eggs smell *bad*, so don't eat them.

The Rockets played *badly* last night and lost the game.

Cara performed *well* at the audition and earned a role in the play.

Identify It

Read each item below. On the line, write **Adj.** or **Adv.** to identify each **boldface** word as an adjective or adverb. If the word is an adjective, underline the noun it modifies. If the word is an adverb, underline the action verb it modifies.

1. _____ Music blared **loudly** from a pair of speakers placed in the window.
2. _____ As we were about to leave, my brother suddenly appeared **queasy**, so we stayed home.
3. _____ The coconut smoothie tasted so **good**, we ordered a second one.
4. _____ Rosa's room is **always** a bit cooler than the rest of the apartment.
5. _____ Mr. Swift felt **bad** about breaking his promise to the students.
6. _____ Paxton tried **hard** not to laugh when the gum got stuck in his friend's hair.
7. _____ The lamp shines so **brightly**, we use it only when we have to.
8. _____ The mosquitoes down by the lake are particularly **bad** this year.
9. _____ A few pebbles tumbled **quietly** down the slope and into the ravine.
10. _____ The children grew **quiet** as their mother entered the room.

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Proof It

Some of the sentences below contain errors in adjective and adverb usage. Use proofreading marks to make corrections. If the sentence is correct, place a checkmark on the line.

1. _____ Aunt Mae smiled proud as she presented the elaborate gingerbread house.
2. _____ During their trip to Myrtle Beach, the Connors ate well every day.
3. _____ A thresher moved slow through the fields like a dinosaur roaming the plains.
4. _____ When a toddler smells badly, it usually means it's time for a diaper change.
5. _____ Emperor penguins look majestically as they stand tall on the Antarctic ice.
6. _____ The scientists' prediction about where the module would land appeared to be successfully.
7. _____ The plumage of some parrots is beautifully to behold.
8. _____ The fresh coffee brewing in the café smelled good.
9. _____ The gentle movement of the curtains great amused a kitten.
10. _____ A dilapidated shack lay abandonedly and forgotten deep within the woods.
11. _____ Wallace stored his files safe by uploading them to the cloud.
12. _____ After reaching a height of nearly 400 feet, the roller coaster track plunges steep back to ground level.
13. _____ Lance's femur was broken so bad, the pieces had to be bolted back together.
14. _____ Coal burning power plants provide electricity more reliable than wind turbines.
15. _____ Historically, theatrical performances as we know them date back to the Ancient Greeks.
16. _____ A squirrel ran quick along the top of the fence, trying desperately to outrun the neighbor's dog.
17. _____ The manatee seems contently to float around and munch sea grass all day.
18. _____ The massive ship looks deceptively small when seen from a great distance.

Try It

Write two sentences containing adverbs and two containing predicate adjectives. Circle the adverbs in your sentences and underline the adjectives.
