

Lesson 1.19 Adverbs and Intensifiers

Adverbs modify, or describe, verbs. An adverb tells *how*, *when*, or *where* an action occurs.

Malia waited *patiently*. (tells *how* Malia waited)

My brother was sent to the principal's office *yesterday*. (tells *when* he was sent)

Kirby hid *behind* the sycamore tree. (tells *where* Kirby hid)

Adverbs can also modify adjectives or other adverbs.

The gas tank was *completely* empty. (*completely* modifies the adjective *empty*)

Earthquakes in the South are *quite* rare. (*quite* modifies the adverb *rare*)

Many, but not all, adverbs are formed by adding *-ly* to adjectives.

Intensifiers are adverbs that add emphasis or intensity to adjectives or other adverbs.

The following are common intensifiers.

absolutely	just	quite	so	such
almost	nearly	rather	particularly	too
extremely	practically	really	somewhat	very

Mr. Singh travels for work *quite* often.

Felicia felt *extremely* impatient as she waited for the train to pass.

Complete It

Add an intensifier from the box above to each sentence below. Circle the word it modifies.

- Mr. Crawley was _____ embarrassed by the incident at work yesterday.
- The actors were _____ talented, and the sets were exquisite.
- The door was _____ open, and I was worried that the cats had escaped.
- Carmen was _____ asleep by the time her parents returned from the game.
- It's not a _____ funny movie, but I found myself laughing at the strangest parts.
- Dr. Yusef was _____ worried when he received the results of his wife's biopsy.
- I found the documentary about sea turtles to be _____ captivating.
- Although Kiko's shoes were _____ new, they were already scuffed and dirty.
- The children were _____ bored by the speech, but they were not permitted to leave.
- The whole situation was just _____ strange to explain.

Lesson 1.17 Adjectives and Predicate Adjectives

An **adjective** is a word that describes a noun or pronoun. It offers more information about the word it modifies. Adjectives often come before the noun or pronoun they describe. They answer the question *What kind? How many? or Which one?*

Tasha climbed into the *wooden* canoe and grabbed the *battered old* paddles.
Blake picked out *two* bunches of *fresh* carrots at the *downtown* market.

Proper adjectives are capitalized.

Alexander made roasted *Brussels* sprouts on *Sunday* night.
Priya has never attended an authentic *Indian* wedding before.

A **predicate adjective** follows a linking verb (a form of the verb *to be, smell, look, taste, feel, sound, appear, seem, become, grow, or remain*). A predicate adjective modifies the subject of the sentence.

The windows on the back of the shed appeared *broken*.

In this example, *broken* is a predicate adjective, following the linking verb *appeared*. It modifies *windows*, the subject of the sentence.

Identify It

In the sentences below, underline adjectives once and proper adjectives twice. Circle predicate adjectives.

1. Did you know that butterfly wings are covered with tiny overlapping scales?
2. The amazing monarch butterfly migrates a distance of more than 2,000 miles.
3. There are more than 28,000 species of butterflies in the world.
4. The moth's speckled wings blended into the bumpy bark of the American elm.
5. Samuel remained still, and dozens of colorful butterflies settled on his arms, shoulders, and head.
6. The tiny moth used its long proboscis to suck sweet nectar from a honeysuckle flower.
7. The butterfly's wings looked iridescent in the bright sunlight.
8. On Easter morning, the brand-new butterflies emerged from the papery cocoons at the botanical gardens.
9. When a chrysalis breaks open, the butterfly's wings are wet and crinkly.
10. Many rare butterflies are found in tropical rainforests.
11. Beautiful peacock butterflies have purple eyespots on their hind legs.
12. Butterflies need warm, sunny weather—otherwise, they cannot fly!
13. Are you going to the Butterfly Ball on Saturday night?
14. Queen Alexandra's Birdwing butterfly is the rarest and largest.