

ADVERBS

WHAT DO ADVERBS DO?

Adverbs modify:

verbs (quickly ran)

adjectives (deep blue)

adverbs (very quickly)

phrases (just around the corner)

clauses (suddenly when we awoke)

sentences (Honestly, I love grammar)

Typically, adverbs answer the questions: When? Where? How? Why? And, to what extent?

Example:

I can run fast.

[The word fast modifies the verb run, telling us to what extent of speed the runner can run.]

Example:

I can run really fast.

[The word fast modifies the verb run; however, the word really is another adverb which modifies the word fast - another adverb.]

DETAILS

Adverbs often end in the suffix -ly.

Some common adverbs include: Really, truly, quickly, beautifully, etc.

In addition, adverbs can be somewhat irregular: sideways, clockwise, yesterday, tomorrow, faster, quicker, etc.

ADVERB PHRASES

A group of words fixed around an adverb.

Example:

John walked very awkwardly.

The tiger stalked its prey very quietly.

Words may precede or follow the main adverb in an adverb phrase.