

ADVERB TEST

BHARAT SCHOOL OF BANKING - VELLORE

Adverb: A word or phrase that modifies or qualifies an adjective, verb, or other adverb or a word group, expressing a relation of place, time, circumstance, manner, cause, degree, etc.

1. Incorrect: I have seen a 3D movie **last night**.

Correct : I **saw** a 3D movie last night.

Rule : Time adverbs cannot be used in the present perfect, instead the past indefinite is used for them.

2. Incorrect : He is so rich.

Correct : He is **very** rich.

Rule :

“So” is used with “that” to add extra information – usually a result or consequence:

Last night I was **very** tired.

Last night I was **so** tired **that** I almost fell asleep while driving.

This book is **very** interesting.

This book is **so** interesting **that** I stayed up until 3 AM reading it!

The adverb “so” as an adverb of degree must not be used absolutely.

3. Incorrect : He went only that far.

Correct : He went only so far.

Rule : **That** “should not be used instead of” **so** “as an adverb”.

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so far:

1. Up to the present moment: So far there's been no word from them.
2. To a limited extent: You can go only so far on five dollars.
4. Incorrect: She is too intelligent.

Correct: she is very intelligent.

Rule: Very and Too + adjective

1. The exam is very difficult, but Jim can complete it.
2. The exam is too difficult. Jim can't complete it.

Very difficult = it is difficult but possible for Jim to complete the exam.

Too difficult = It is impossible for Jim to complete the exam.

Remember that Too implies a negative result.

Very: adverb: used for emphasis:

Too: adverb: to a higher degree than is desirable, permissible, or possible; excessively.

The adverb "too" should not be used instead of "very" or "much" and vice versa.

5. Incorrect: The match became much interesting.

Correct: The match became very interesting.

Rule: Much is used with past participles used as adjectives not with present participles.

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Much ♦ A much loved member of the family. (before a comparative or superlative adjective or adverb)

6. Incorrect: He too is weak to run.

Correct: He is too weak to run.

Rule: Adverb of degree comes just before the adjective it qualifies.

7. Incorrect: The moon shone bright in the sky.

Correct: The moon shone (shine) brightly in the sky.

Rule : Adjective should not be used for adverb.

Bright: (Adj): Emitting or reflecting light readily or in large amounts

"the sun was bright and hot"; "a bright sunlit room"

Brightly (adv): With brightness "the stars shone brightly"

8. Incorrect: He fought hardly for the No. 1 spot.

Correct: He fought hard for the No. 1 spot.

Rule: Some adverbs have two forms, the form ending in-ly and the form which is the same as adjective

The problem with HARDLY is that it looks like an adverb (for example; quickly, differently, slowly) formed from an adjective.

But hardly is not the adverb of hard.

The definition of hardly is: with great difficulty, almost not

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with great difficulty • I could hardly hear him speaking, he should have used a microphone

almost not • Mike had hardly walked through the front door when the phone rang

HARD can be both an adjective and an adverb

Examples as an adjective: Not easy; requiring great physical or mental effort to accomplish or comprehend or endure

- Diamonds are extremely hard stones.
- The basketball trainer is very hard if you miss the rebound you have to do 20 push-ups.

Examples as adverbs: With effort, force or vigor

- Tom worked very hard to make his business profitable
- The little boy held his father's hand hard, he didn't want to lose him

9. Incorrect: It would hard rain today.

Correct: It would hardly rain today.

10. Incorrect: The hare ran more fast than the dog.

Correct: The hare ran faster than the dog.

Rule: If the adverb is of one syllable, the comparative is formed by adding -er and the superlative by adding -est to the positive.

11. Incorrect: The petrol price hike issue has been debated hotlier than the urea scam.

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Correct: The petrol price hike issue has been debated **more hotly** than the urea scam.

Hotly adverb in a passionate, intense, or angry way.

"the rumours were hotly denied"

vehemently, vigorously, strenuously, fiercely, passionately, heatedly, with a vengeance

Rule: Adverbs ending in *-ly* form the comparative by adding *more* and the superlative by adding *most*.

With adverbs ending in *-ly*, you must use *more* to form the comparative, and *most* to form the superlative.

Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
quietly	more quietly	most quietly
slowly	more slowly	most slowly
seriously	more seriously	most seriously

EXAMPLES

- The teacher spoke **more slowly** to help us to understand.
- Could you sing **more quietly** please?

With short adverbs that do not end in *-ly* comparative and superlative forms are identical to adjectives: add *-er* to form the comparative and *-est* to form the superlative. If the adverb ends in *e*, remove it before adding the ending.

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Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
hard	harder	hardest
fast	faster	fastest
late	later	latest

EXAMPLES

- Jim works **harder** than his brother.
- Everyone in the race ran fast, but John ran the **fastest** of all.

Some adverbs have irregular comparative and superlative forms.

Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
badly	worse	worst
far	farther/further	farthest/furthest
little	less	Least
well	better	Best

EXAMPLES

- The little boy ran **farther** than his friends.
- You're driving **worse** today than yesterday !

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- He played **the best** of any player.

12. Incorrect: He wrote last year a book.

Correct: He wrote a book last year.

Rule: Adverbs of **manner, place and time** are generally placed after the verb or after the object if there is one.

13. Incorrect: I read the proof yesterday meticulously at home.

Correct: I read the proof meticulously at home yesterday.

Rule: When there are two or more adverbs after a verb (and its object), the normal order is; **adverb of manner, adverb of place, adverb of time.**

14. Incorrect: she did not despise(hate) none of her lovers.

Correct: She did not despise any of her lovers.

Rule : Two negatives should not be used in the same sentence unless we wish to make an affirmation.

If you think of “**none**” as “**not one,**” then it is singular. But sometimes “**none**” means “**not any**” and needs a plural verb. You should choose the verb depending on your meaning.

Both of these sentences could be considered correct:

None of us knows the trouble she has seen. (Not one)

None of us know the trouble she has seen. (Not any)

None is a negative pronoun

no is a negative adjective

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not is a negative adverb

- None of the men survived the earthquake.
- No man survived the earthquake.
- The men did not survive the earthquake.

Any: To any degree or extent

As for any, it's the prototype Negative Polarity Item, which is only grammatical with a negative.

- She didn't find any books. (grammatical; negative context)
- *She found any books. (ungrammatical; no negative)

15. Incorrect: She seldom or ever has sweet talks with her son.

Correct: She seldom or never has sweet talks with her son.

Rule : Ever should not be used for never.

Never: Not ever; at no time in the past or future. ஒருபோதும்

I have never been to China.

I will never marry you.

Ever: At any time. எப்போதும்

Did you ever smoke?

16. Incorrect: It is nothing else than fatigue.

Correct: It is nothing else but fatigue.

Rule : Else should be followed by but.

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17. Incorrect: She met her friend after a long time and her friend never recognised her.

Correct: She met her friend after a long time and her friend did not recognise her.

Rule : Never should not be used for not.

Exercise :

Directions: Find out the error in each of the following sentences, if any. If there is no error, the answer is 'd'.

1. She behaved in a cowardly manner (a)/ before the headmaster (b)/ and hesitated to do the work. (c)/ No error (d)

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1. d; No error

Cowardly: Lacking courage; ignobly timid and faint-hearted.

Some words ending in **-ly** are **adjectives**, and **not normally adverbs**.

Examples are: costly, cowardly, deadly, friendly, likely, lively, lonely, silly, miserly and unlikely.

Incorrect: He behaved cowardly.

Correct: He behaved in a cowardly manner.

Correct: He behaved like a coward.

Incorrect: He laughed silly.

Correct: He gave a silly laugh.

Incorrect: He lives miserly.

Correct: He lives in a miserly way.

In the sentences given above the words cowardly, silly and miserly are all adjectives which cannot be used to modify verbs. And because there are no adverbs for these meanings we have to use adverb phrases like 'in a cowardly manner' and 'in a miserly way' to express the same idea.

2. The girl refused (a)/ not to (b)/ return the articles. (c)/ No error (d)

2. b; Omit the word "not"

Refused: Show unwillingness towards

"he refused to join the group on a hike"

Two negatives should not be used in the same sentence.

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3. The real important thing (a)/ of our life is our livelihood (b)/ which discriminates us from animals. (c)/ No error (d)

3. a; Replace “real” with “really”

Thing : noun : A special situation "it is a remarkable thing"

Real is an adjective. It modifies only nouns or pronouns. உண்மையான

Really is an adverb. It modifies verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs.

உண்மையில்

Real is often used in place of *really*, most often in conversational English.

Example 1 (incorrect usage): I am *real* tired today.

Example 2 (correct usage): I am *really* tired today.

Although this error is somewhat acceptable in informal conversation, it is actually incorrect and should never be used in writing. The reason that *real* is incorrect when used this way is simple: *Real* is an adjective, and as you can see in the first example above, *real* is incorrectly used as an adverb.

Alexandre, who is 5 years old, owns a **fake** car. His father owns a **real** car.

4. She is too much beautiful (a)/ so most of the boys (b)/ run after her and want to influence her. (c)/ No error (d)

4. a; Replace “too much” with “very”

too much (adv): more than necessary; "she eats too much";

very (adv): used for emphasis Think about it

very carefully before deciding.

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5. The taxi driver who had come (a)/ to receive us at (b)/ the airport was speaking fluently French. (c)/ No error (d)

5. c; Replace “fluently French” with “French fluently”

Adverbs of manner, place and time are generally placed after the verb or after the object if there is one.

6. The observers feel that (a)/ the stronger team has to face defeat (b)/ because the players don't play whole hearted. (c)/ No error (d)

6. c; Replace “whole-hearted” with “whole-heartedly”

Wholehearted adjective : showing or characterized by complete sincerity and commitment.

"you have my wholehearted support"

Wholeheartedly - adv - without reserve; without reservation;

"he adopted wholeheartedly some of the policies that he had previously criticized"

7. Although he is usually (a)/ rude with everyone, (b)/ he behaved nice with all of us today. (c)/ No error (d)

7. c; Replace “nice” with “nicely”

Rude: adj: Socially incorrect in behavior

Nicely adv - in a nice way; "a nicely painted house"

Nice adj. nicer, nicest : Pleasing and agreeable in nature:

had a nice time; a nice person.

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8. He ran so fastly (a)/ that he reached first and (b)/ realised that he had (c)/ not earned anything substantial. (d)/ No error (e)

8. a; Replace “fastly” with “fast”

The fact is that there is no such word as “fastly”.

“Fast” is already both an adjective and an adverb, as in

The athlete runs really fast. (correct)

The athlete runs really fastly. (wrong)

It doesn't matter whether “fast” refers to the speed of movement or the rate at which something is being done; it's always just “fast”:

He can't write fast enough. (correct)

He can't write fastly enough. (wrong)

9. In spite of toiling (a)/ very hardly he (b)/ realised that he had not earned anything substantial. (c)/ No error (d)

9. b; Replace “hardly” with “hard”

10. We were very much (a)/ carefully in our approach (b)/ and hence we would complete the complicated task. (c) No error (d)

10. b; Replace “carefully” with “careful”

Careful (adj): taking pains in one's work; exact; thorough:
a careful typist.

carefully (adv.) taking care or paying attention