

# **Intensifiers**

( fairly/quite/rather/so/too/very/extremely/a bit/a little )

An intensifier is an adverb which is used with adjectives and adverbs, but which is not usually used with verbs. We say it modifies the adjective or adverb which means it makes the meaning stronger or weaker.

The following words are commonly used as intensifiers: fairly, quite, rather, so, too, very. The intensifier comes before the adjective or adverb it describes ("The music was very loud."). 'Very' and 'extremely' make the meaning of an adjective or adverb stronger. 'Rather', 'pretty', 'fairly' and 'quite' make it a little bit stronger. 'A bit' and 'a little' make it weaker.

I am very happy.  
The film was quite good.  
You did that rather well.  
Must you leave so soon?

In these examples, very modifies the adjective happy, quite modifies the adjective good, rather modifies the adverb well, and so modifies the adverb soon.

## **Practice**

**Choose the correct answer from a, b, c , or d:**

1. I usually have lots of energy but I am \_\_\_\_\_ tired right now.
  - a. even
  - b. much
  - c. not so
  - d. really
  
2. It is \_\_\_\_\_ common for Emirati students to study at university.
  - a. only
  - b. ever
  - c. fairly
  - d. anything

3. - I love your shirt! Yes, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ pleased with it myself

- a. rather
- b. even
- c. enough
- d. much

4. - Her voice is \_\_\_\_ beautiful. Do you think so? I think she sounds awful.

- a. ever
- b. horrible
- c. any
- d. very

5. The film I watched last night was \_\_\_\_\_ good.

- a. quite
- b. enough
- c. ever
- d. many