Unit 100

# Adjectives and adverbs 1 (**quick**/**quickly**)

**A**

You can say:

- Our holiday was too short – the time passed very **quickly**.
- Two people were **seriously** injured in the accident.

**Quickly** and **seriously** are *adverbs*. Many adverbs are *adjective* + **-ly**:

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *adjective* | quick | serious | careful | bad | heavy | terrible |
| *adverb* | **quickly** | **seriously** | **carefully** | **badly** | **heavily** | **terribly** |

For spelling, see Appendix 6.

Not all words ending in **-ly** are adverbs. Some *adjectives* end in **-ly** too, for example:

**friendly** **lively** **elderly** **lonely** **lovely**

- It was a **lovely** day.

**B**

Adjective or adverb?

Adjectives (**quick**/**careful** etc.) tell us about a *noun* (somebody or something). We use adjectives before nouns:

- Sam is a **careful driver**. (*not* a carefully driver)
- We didn't go out because of the **heavy rain**.

Adverbs (**quickly**/**carefully** etc.) tell us about a *verb* (*how* somebody does something or *how* something happens):

- Sam **drove carefully** along the narrow road. (*not* drove careful)
- We didn't go out because it was **raining heavily**. (*not* raining heavy)

Compare:

- She speaks **perfect English**.
  *adjective + noun*
- She **speaks** English **perfectly**.
  *verb + noun + adverb*

**C**

We use adjectives after some verbs, especially **be**, and also **look**/**feel**/**sound** etc.
Compare:

- Please **be quiet**.
- My exam results **were** really **bad**.
- Why do you always **look** so **serious**?
- I **feel happy**.

- Please **speak quietly**.
- I **did** really **badly** in the exam.
- Why do you never **take** me **seriously**?
- The children were **playing happily**.

**D**

You can also use adverbs before *adjectives* and *other adverbs*. For example:

**reasonably** cheap (*adverb + adjective*)
**terribly** sorry (*adverb + adjective*)
**incredibly** quickly (*adverb + adverb*)

- It's a **reasonably cheap** restaurant and the food is **extremely good**.
- I'm **terribly sorry**. I didn't mean to push you.
- Maria learns languages **incredibly quickly**.
- The exam was **surprisingly easy**.

You can also use an adverb before a *past participle* (**injured**/**organised**/**written** etc.):

- Two people were **seriously injured** in the accident. (*not* serious injured)
- The conference was **badly organised**.



Adjectives after **be**/**look**/**feel** etc. ➜ **Unit 99C** Adjectives and adverbs 2 ➜ **Unit 101**

LIVEWORKSHEETS

# Exercises

**100.1 Complete each sentence with an adverb. The first letters of the adverb are given.**

1 We didn't go out because it was raining he avily.
2 I had no problem finding a place to live. I found a flat quite ea.....
3 We had to wait a long time, but we didn't complain. We waited pat.....
4 Nobody knew that Simon was coming to see us. He arrived unex.....
5 Mike keeps fit by playing tennis reg.....
6 I don't speak French very well, but I can understand per..... if people speak sl..... and cl.....

**100.2 Put in the correct word.**

1 Sam drove carefully along the narrow road. (careful / carefully)
2 I think you behaved very ..... (selfish / selfishly)
3 The weather changed ..... (sudden / suddenly)
4 There was a ..... change in the weather. (sudden / suddenly)
5 Liz fell and hurt herself really ..... (bad / badly)
6 I think I have flu. I feel ..... (awful / awfully)
7 Tanya is ..... upset about losing her job. (terrible / terribly)
8 I could sit in this chair all day. It's very ..... (comfortable / comfortably)
9 I explained everything as ..... as I could. (clear / clearly)
10 Be careful on that ladder. It doesn't look very ..... (safe / safely)
11 Have a good trip and I hope you have a ..... journey. (safe / safely)
12 I'm glad you had a good trip and got home ..... (safe / safely)

**100.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the box. Sometimes you need the adjective (careful etc.) and sometimes the adverb (carefully etc.).**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| careful(ly) | complete(ly) | dangerous(ly) | financial(ly) | fluent(ly) |
| frequent(ly) | nervous(ly) | perfect(ly) | permanent(ly) | special(ly) |

1 Sam doesn't take risks when he's driving. He's always careful.
2 He's late sometimes, but it doesn't happen .....
3 Maria's English is very ..... although she makes quite a lot of mistakes.
4 I cooked this meal ..... for you, so I hope you like it.
5 Everything was very quiet. There was ..... silence.
6 I tried on the shoes and they fitted me .....
7 I'd like to buy a car, but it's ..... impossible for me at the moment.
8 I'm staying here only a few weeks. I won't be living here .....
9 Do you usually feel ..... before exams?
10 Dan likes to take risks. He lives .....

**100.4 Choose two words (one from each box) to complete each sentence.**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| absolutely | badly | completely | changed | cheap | damaged |
| happily | reasonably | seriously | enormous | ill | long |
| slightly | unnecessarily | unusually | married | planned | quiet |

1 I thought the restaurant would be expensive, but it was reasonably cheap.
2 Will's mother is ..... in hospital.
3 This house is so big! It's .....
4 It wasn't a serious accident. The car was only .....
5 Our children are normally very lively, but they're ..... today.
6 When I returned home after 20 years, everything had .....
7 The movie was ..... It could have been much shorter.
8 I'm surprised Amy and Joe have separated. I thought they were .....
9 A lot went wrong during our holiday because it was .....

→ Additional exercise 31 (page 320)



LIVEWORKSHEETS