

Adverbs and adverbial phrases

1 CONFUSING ADVERBS AND ADVERBIAL PHRASES

a Match each pair of adverbs with a pair of sentences. Then decide which adverb goes where and write it in the adverb column.

right now / actually
 especially / specially
 ever / even
1 hard / hardly

in the end / at the end
 late / lately
 near / nearly
 still / yet

1 He trains very **1** – at least three hours a day.
It's incredibly foggy. I can **1** see anything.

2 I hate it when people arrive **1** for meetings.
I haven't heard from Mike **1**. He must be very busy.

3 **1** of a movie I always stay and watch the credits roll.
I didn't want to go, but **1** they persuaded me.

4 I love most kinds of music, but **1** jazz.
My wedding dress was **1** made for me by a dressmaker.

5 She looks younger than me, but **1** she's two years older.
1 they're renting a house, but they're hoping to buy one soon.

6 I'm **1** finished with my book. I'm on the last chapter.
Excuse me, is there a bank **1** here?

7 Have you found a job **1**?
He's 35, but he **1** lives with his parents.

8 Have you **1** been to the US?
I've been all over the US – I've **1** been to Alaska!

Adverbs

hard
hardly

2 COMMENT ADVERBS

a Read the sentences. Then match the **bold** adverbs with definitions 1–8.

I thought the job was going to be difficult, but **in fact** it's very easy /ɪn fækt/.

It took us over five hours to get there, but **eventually** we were able to relax /ɪ'venʃəli/.

Ideally we would go to Australia if we could afford it. /aɪ'deɪli/

Basically it's pretty a simple idea /'beɪsɪkli/.

I thought they'd broken up, but **apparently** they're back together again /ə'perəntli/.

...so you can see it was a really awful weekend. **Anyway**, let's forget about it and talk about something else /ə'niwei/.

She's only 14, so **obviously** she can't stay at home on her own /ə'bviəslɪ/...

She's been sick for weeks, but **gradually** she's beginning to feel better /grædʒuəli/.

1 ideally in a perfect world
2 in fact the truth is; actually (used to emphasize something, especially the opposite of what was previously said)
3 eventually in the most important ways
4 clearly clearly (used to give information you expect other people to know or agree with)
5 little by little
6 according to according to what you have heard or read
7 in any case in any case (used to change or finish a conversation)
8 in the end in the end; after a series of events or difficulties