

GUIDED DISCOVERY HANDOUT: ADVERBS & ADVERBIAL PHRASE

STAGE 1: NOTICING THE LANGUAGE IN CONTEXT

Read the following sentences and observe the **bold** words and phrases.

1. The ants **quickly** built a nest in the ground.
2. It was an **extremely** large colony.
3. The snow fell **very heavily** last night.
4. **Suddenly**, the sky went dark and it started to rain.
5. The film finished **in a very unlikely way**.
6. **Rarely have I received** such poor service.
7. **Only later did we realize** how sick she was.

STAGE 2: WHAT DO ADVERBS MODIFY?

Look at sentences 1–4 above and match each sentence to what the bold adverb/adverbial phrase modifies:

- Sentence 1 (*quickly built*) modifies a:
- Sentence 2 (*extremely large*) modifies an:
- Sentence 3 (*very heavily*) modifies another:
- Sentence 4 (*Suddenly, the sky went dark...*) modifies a:

STAGE 3: TYPES & POSITIONS OF ADVERBS

Task A: Categorize the Types

Match the category to its correct definition and example:

Category	Function	Example
1. Manner	A. Expresses point of view	<i>probably, possibly</i>

2. Probability	B. How often something happens	<i>almost, extremely, rather</i>
3. Degree	C. How somebody does something	<i>surprisingly, interestingly</i>
4. Frequency	D. Limits perspective / topic	<i>rarely, from time to time, often</i>
5. Viewpoint	E. How likely something is to happen	<i>quickly, with great skill</i>
6. Comment	F. Strength or intensity	<i>on a personal level, in some cases</i>

Answers: 1 - ____ | 2 - ____ | 3 - ____ | 4 - ____ | 5 - ____ | 6 - ____

Task B: Rules for Adverb Positions

Adverbs can go in **front**, **mid**, or **end** positions. Complete the position rules using the words: *front, mid, end*.

1. We normally put **comment** (*Interestingly*) and **viewpoint** adverbs in _____ position.
2. We normally put adverbs of **frequency** (*always*), **degree** (*almost*), and **probability** (*probably*) in _____ position (after auxiliary verbs/modal verbs, but before main verbs).
3. We normally put adverbs of **manner** (*really well, carefully*) in _____ position.

STAGE 4: SPECIAL FORMS & ADVERBIAL PHRASES

1. **Adjectives ending in -ly:** Words like *friendly, likely, lonely, lovely, unlikely* are **adjectives**, not adverbs.
 - *Formula to make them adverbial: in a / an + [Adjective] + way.*
 - *Example: The film finished _____ (unlikely).*
2. **Irregular Forms:** Some adverbs have the **same form** as adjectives.
 - *List: fast, hard, high, long, low, near, early, late.*
 - *Note: Many adjectives ending in -ed do **not** have adverb forms.*