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Quality or adverb of manner?

There are words which describe **when** something happens, the **place** where something happens or **how** something happens, and then tell us more about the **actions**. These words are called **adverbs**. Each one of them answers one kind of question:

Take a look at this chart below:

Question	Answer	Type
When?	Today, yesterday, later, now, tomorrow...	Adverbs of time
Where?	Here, there, home, away, everywhere...	Adverbs of place
How?	Happily, well, slowly, dangerously...	Adverbs of manner

As you can see, the **adverbs** talk about the **actions**, while the **qualities** (or *adjectives*, as you prefer) talk about the **things** (person, place or thing).

Read this example:

Jen **drove carefully** along the road.

How did Jen drive? Carefully!

In what way did Jen drive? Carefully!

Compare to this sentence now:

Jen is a **careful** driver.

Here, careful is an **adjective** and gives more information about **what kind of** driver Tom is. Adjectives usually follow the verb “to be” and come before a noun.

How can we make adverbs?

Usually, we make adverbs by **adding “ly”** to the end of an adjective.

Examples:

nice → nicely

clear → clearly

Sometimes, we must change the “y” at the end of the adjective and **add “ily”** to make the adverb.

Examples:

heavy → heavily
lazy → lazily

Be careful! Some **adjectives** end in “ly” and are NOT adverbs.

Examples:

She is a lovely woman.

They are very friendly, aren't they?

Now we know how to use adverbs of manner to describe more about the **way** we do things. Let's look at three more examples. Can you find the **adverbs**?:

My mother sings beautifully, but my father sings very badly.

When I was a child, I couldn't swim very quickly, but now I can!

They don't like the teacher because she speaks so loudly.

Be careful! There are some very common exceptions!!!

“Good” is an adjective.

Your pronunciation is very **good**.

“Well” is an adverb.

He can't play tennis **well**.

The words “fast,” “late,” and “hard” are adjectives **and** adverbs.

Adjective	Adverb
John was a fast runner when he was 10.	John could run very fast.
The bus was late.	The bus arrived late today.
Sarah is a hard worker.	Sarah works hard every day.

*Lately is an adverb, but it means “recently”.

I have been feeling tired lately.

**Hardly is an adverb, but it means “almost not at all.”

She hardly ate anything today.

Now, we need to remember how to **compare** how things are done. You can follow the same rules that we use with adjectives!

Examples:

Ann speaks French fluently. Jack can't speak French fluently.

Ann speaks French **more** fluently **than** Jack, **OR**

Jack speaks French **less** fluently **than** Ann, **OR**

Jack doesn't speak French **as** fluently **as** Ann.

Ann speaks French **the most** fluently in the whole office.

This is the “superlative”. It compares three or more people/things.

Example:

Bob studies seriously.

Dan doesn't study seriously.

Bob studies **more** seriously **than** Dan, **or...**

Dan studies **less** seriously **than** Bob, **or...**

Dan doesn't study **as** seriously **as** Bob.

Bob studies **the most** seriously of all the students in his class.

Do you remember those **exceptions** above? (fast/late/hard/well)
Let's see how to **compare** ideas with these!

Margaret runs **faster than** me, but Bob runs **the fastest** on our team.

Joe arrives home **later than** his children. His wife arrives home **the latest** in the family.

Sally works much **harder than** her sister in the family business, but her brother works **the hardest**.

My mother sings **better** than my father. In fact, my mother sings **the best** in our whole family!