

Adverbials

Verbs

Verbs indicate that someone or something is
doing, feeling or being.



The sun was shining.
The Walrus and the Carpenter wept.
I doubt it!
The eldest oyster winked.



Usually **verbs** have the **name** of a person or thing or a **pronoun** in front of them.

Adverbials

Adverbials can tell us more about a **verb**.

(They can also tell us more about adjectives, clauses, phrases and other adverbs)



sulkily

Adverbials can be

a word,

a phrase,

or a clause.



close at hand

as they talked together

Adverbials

Adverbials tell us more about a **verb**.



The Carpenter **wept**.

The Carpenter **wept with loud sobs**.

The Carpenter **wept as he walked on the beach**.

The Carpenter **wept in the middle of the night**.

*In each sentence, the **verb** is modified by the **adverbial**.*

Adverbials

Adverbials answer the questions...

Where?

When?

How?



Adverbials

Where?

The Carpenter **wept**.

The Carpenter **wept on the beach**.

The Carpenter **wept at the edge of the sea**.

The Carpenter **wept under the bright sky**.

The Carpenter **wept in front of the Walrus**.



Adverbials answer the question: *Where?*

Adverbials

When?

The Carpenter **wept**.

The Carpenter **wept** in the middle of the night.

The Carpenter **wept** while he walked.

The Carpenter **wept** constantly.

The Carpenter **wept** before he found the oysters.



Adverbials answer the question: *When?*

Adverbials

How?

The Carpenter **wept**.

The Carpenter **wept unceasingly**.

The Carpenter **wept noisily**.

The Carpenter **wept with deep sorrow**.

The Carpenter **wept without stopping**.



Adverbials answer the question: *How?*

Adverbials – Single Words

Adverbials can be a single word (an adverb).

The buffalo sat defiantly.

Cheerfully, the buffalo smiled.

He was completely surprised.



Where?

upstairs
everywhere
here
outside

When?

again
tomorrow
yesterday
then
today
often

How?

angrily
excitedly
cheerfully
defiantly
foolishly
well

How much?

completely
entirely
almost
totally

How often?

daily
hourly
often
once

Adverbials - Prepositions

Adverbials can open with a preposition.



The Elephant played before he was stopped.

The Elephant played in the street.

The Elephant played with skill and panache.

When?

before...

after...

while...

in...

on...

at...

Where?

above...

below...

inside...

outside...

to...

on...

from...

How?

in...

with...

as...

like...

The preposition is part of the adverbial. The adverbial is often just a phrase.

Adverbials - Conjunctions

Adverbials can open with a conjunction.



The hippo caused surprise wherever he went.

He was shocked when he saw him.

He worried about his appetite because he was so large.

The conjunction makes a subordinate clause which works as an adverbial.

Where?

where
wherever

When?

after
before
when
since
until
as
while

Why?

because
as
so
since

Adverbials

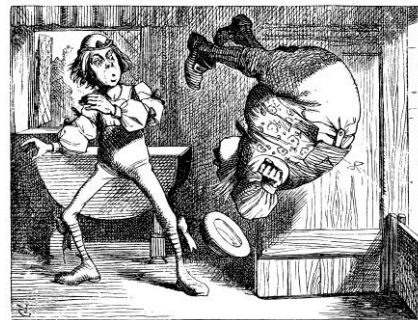
You can change the order of **Adverbials**.

The young man watched **in amazement**.

In amazement, the young man watched.

Father William stood upside down **incessantly**.

Incessantly, Father William stood upside down.



Swap the adverbial round in these sentences.

Father William somersaulted **at the door**.

At the door, Father William somersaulted.

The young man questioned **endlessly**.

Endlessly, the young man questioned.

Fronted Adverbials

When an **adverbial** appears in front of the sentence it is modifying...
it is called a **fronted adverbial**.



Each day, Father William stood on his head.

With grace and precision, he somersaulted.



Because of the ointment, his limbs were supple.

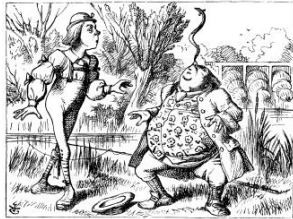
Eventually, he refused to answer the questions.



Punctuating Fronted Adverbials

Fronted adverbials are separated from the main part of the sentence by a **comma**.

On the end of his nose, he balanced an eel.



Try saying the whole sentence
with and without a pause.



The comma tells the listener that the main information is coming.

This is great for building anticipation.



Punctuating Fronted Adverbials

Spot the fronted adverbial in each sentence.

Decide where the comma should go.



On the top of his head there was bright white hair.

On the top of his head, there was bright white hair.

Again and again he stood on his head.

Again and again, he stood on his head.

With his strong jaw he ate the whole goose.

With his strong jaw, he ate the whole goose.

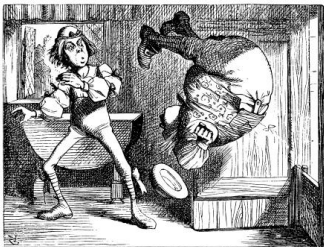
Incredibly he balanced an eel on his nose.

Incredibly, he balanced an eel on his nose.

Amazed by what he saw he watched.

Amazed by what he saw, he watched.

Answers



End