

COMPARATIVE CONSTRUCTIONS II

#5 - Adverbials

Adverb vs. Adverbial

1. **Adverbs:** a word that modifies a verb.
 - Many - but not all - adverbs end in -ly.
 - They explain manner, frequency, place, or time.
 - Examples: well, carefully, suddenly, always, hardly ever, never, backwards, forwards, now, tomorrow, today, then, etc.
2. **Adverbials:** any structure that describes a verb regardless of its form.
 - They are used to give more information about the verb.
 - They are used to modify or describe verbs.
 - They answer the questions: when, how, why, where, etc.
 - They can be placed in different locations (most of the time).
 - They can be: adverbs, infinitive phrases, prepositional phrases, or subordinate clauses.

Common Types of Adverbials

- **Adverbial prepositional phrases:** a phrase that begins with a preposition.
- **Adverbial infinitive phrase:** a phrase that begins with an infinitive (to + base form of the verb).
- **Adverbial subordinate clause:** an independent clause introduced by a subordinate conjunction. The most common subordinate conjunctions are: before, after, when, while, because, so, until/till, although, if, since, by the time, as, once, as soon as, and whereas.

- **Adjunctive adverbials:** they provide important information about the sentence. They show place, time, manner, reason/cause.
- **Conjunctive adverbials:** words that link sentences together. For example, therefore, first, second, third, however, in addition, furthermore, additionally, thus, etc.
- **Disjunctive adverbials:** words that make comments or change the tone of the whole sentence. For example: unfortunately, basically, briefly, eventually, clearly, actually, etc.

Practice

Underline the adverbial in each sentence and identify its form. What question does each adverbial answer?

- My friend works at the grocery store.
- We went to the pool to swim.
- I went to sleep after midnight.
- Jack went outside for some fresh air.
- After the show, we went skating.
- She left with a smile.

- She saw the cat on the porch.
- My friend and I decided to take a walk this morning.
- He will meet me here at 4 o'clock.
- Beth cried because her cat died.
- The dog barked all night while I was trying to sleep.
- The boy laughed loudly.

References

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