

Adverbs of degree or quantity

Adverbs of degree answer the question 'how much' or 'in what degree' or 'to what extent'. Examples are: very, too, fully, quite, rather, enough, any, partly, almost, utterly, as, entirely etc.

That was very tragic.

I have almost finished.

He was rather busy.

Is he any good?

You are partly right.

You are entirely wrong.

Adverbs of reason

Adverbs of reason answer the question 'why?'. Examples are: therefore, hence, consequently etc.

Consequently he refused to go.

Therefore they decided to boycott the meeting.

He is hence unable to refute the charge.

Adverbs of affirmation or negation

Examples are: surely, certainly, not, probably, indeed etc.

You are certainly right.

I am not going.

He is a fool indeed.

Interrogative adverbs

Adverbs which are used for asking questions are called interrogative adverbs. Examples are: when, where, how, why etc.

When will you go to New York? (Interrogative adverb of time)

How long will you stay here? (Interrogative adverb of time)

Where are my keys? (Interrogative adverb of place)

How often does the committee meet? (Interrogative adverb of number)

How did he behave? (Interrogative adverb of manner)

How far did he go? (Interrogative adverb of quantity)

Why did you resign? (Interrogative adverb of reason)

Relative adverbs

Read the following sentences:

Do you know the place where the meeting will be held?

In this sentence, where is an adverb as it modifies the verb will be held. Where is also a relative as it connects the two clauses of the sentence and at the same time refers back to its antecedent, place. Where is therefore called a relative adverb. Note that a relative adverb connects an adjective clause to the main clause.