

Adverbs

Adverbs tell more about verbs. They explain *how*, *when*, or *where* actions happen. Many adverbs that tell *how* end in *-ly*. Adverbs can appear before or after the verbs they describe.

How A tumbleweed rolled quickly down Main Street. A dog waited patiently.

When Travelers seldom stopped. Yesterday the stage stopped.

Where Settlers moved westward. They built a town here.

Some adverbs tell more about an adjective or another adverb:

Mining towns sprang up very quickly. They were terribly noisy.

Comparative adverbs compare two actions. Add *-er* to form a comparative adverb. **Superlative** adverbs compare three or more actions. Add *-est* to form a superlative adverb. If an adverb ends in *-ly*, use *more* or *most* instead of *-er* or *-est*.

Comparative Adverb The miners worked harder than the storekeepers.

Superlative Adverb The farmers worked hardest of all. They depended most completely on the land and weather.

- The adverbs *well* and *badly* use special forms to show comparison.

Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
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well	better	best
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badly	worse	worst
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Directions Underline the adverb or adverbs in each sentence. Circle the word or words that each adverb tells more about.

1. The broken windmill turned lazily in the wind. It was almost noon.
2. Our footsteps echoed eerily in the empty buildings. I was scared sometimes.
3. Today we are investigating a ghost town. We usually enjoy our visit.
4. It once boomed with voices and busy lives. Now the place is deserted.
5. Cowboys shouted loudly, and steers milled restlessly in pens.

Directions Underline the correct adverb in () to complete each sentence.

6. When gold was discovered, the stream of settlers flowed (more quickly, most quickly) than before.
7. The California Gold Rush of 1849 increased the population (greatly, more greatly).
8. Many thousands of “49ers” raced (eager, eagerly) to California.
9. A few miners became (incredible, incredibly) wealthy.
10. They performed (better, more better) than most gold seekers.