

## B Form of adverbs

- Many 'how' adverbs are formed by adding *-ly* to an adjective. A few add *-y*, *-ally*, or *-ily*, depending on the spelling of the original adjective.  
slow – slowly   slight – slightly   careful – carefully  
full – fully   dramatic – dramatically   steady – steadily
- Some adverbs and adjectives have the same form. Examples include *fast*, *hard*, *early*, *late*, *high*, *low*, *right*, *wrong*, *daily*, *weekly*, *monthly*, *quarterly*.  
This is a **fast machine**. (adj.)   This machine **goes very fast**. (adv.)  
It's a **hard decision**. (adj.)   He's **working very hard** at the moment. (adv.)
- Note that the adverb *hardly* is not related to the meaning of *hard*.  
It's so noisy I can **hardly** think. ('hardly' = almost not)
- Note that *good* is an adjective and *well* is an adverb.  
She's a **good negotiator**.  
She **negotiates well**.

## E Adjectives ending *-ing* and *-ed*

- Adjectives ending *-ing* describe something we are reacting to (outside us).  
Adjectives ending *-ed* describe our feelings and reactions (inside us).  
The meeting was very **interesting**. I was **interested** in your idea about outsourcing.  
Asia Online president Kevin Randolph says he does not concentrate on the number of customers because he is not really **interested** in mass marketing. 'I am **interested** in quality marketing,' Randolph says. 'We have 100,000 customers, which is an **interesting** number, but I am not managing the business based on that.' (business review weekly website)
- Other pairs like this are: *bored*/*boring*, *confused*/*confusing*, *excited*/*exciting*, *fascinated*/*fascinating*, *surprised*/*surprising*, *tired*/*tiring*.  
I found her comments quite **surprising**. I was **surprised** by her comments.

## Compare adjectives ending in *-ing* and *-ed*:

You can say:

- My job is  $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{boring.} \\ \text{interesting.} \\ \text{tiring.} \\ \text{satisfying.} \\ \text{depressing. (etc.)} \end{array} \right\}$

The *-ing* adjective tells you about the job.

Compare these examples:

- interesting**  
● Julia thinks politics is very interesting.
- Did you meet anyone interesting at the party?
- surprising**  
● It was quite surprising that he passed the examination.
- disappointing**  
● The film was disappointing. I expected it to be much better.
- shocking**  
● The news was shocking.

You can say:

- I'm bored with my job.
- I'm not interested in my job any more.
- I'm always tired when I finish work.
- I'm not satisfied with my job.
- My job makes me depressed. (etc.)

The *-ed* adjective tells you how somebody feels (about the job).

**interested**

- Julia is very interested in politics. (*not* 'interesting in politics')
- Are you interested in buying a car? I'm trying to sell mine.
- surprised**  
● Everybody was surprised that he passed the examination.
- disappointed**  
● I was disappointed with the film. I expected it to be much better.
- shocked**  
● We were very shocked when we heard the news.

Look at these examples:

- Our holiday was too short – the time went very quickly.
  - The driver of the car was seriously injured in the accident.
- Quickly and seriously are *adverbs*. Many adverbs are made from an adjective + *-ly*:
- adjective:* quick   serious   careful   quiet   heavy   bad  
*adverb:* quickly   seriously   carefully   quietly   heavily   badly
- For spelling, see Appendix 6.

Not all words ending in *-ly* are adverbs. Some *adjectives* end in *-ly* too, for example:

friendly   lively   elderly   lonely   silly   lovely

**Fast/hard/late**

These words are both adjectives and adverbs:

- adjective*  
Jack can run very fast.  
Ann is a hard worker.  
The train was late.  
I got up late this morning.
- adverb*  
Jack can run very fast.  
Ann works hard. (*not* 'works hardly')  
I got up late this morning.
- Laterally = 'recently'
- Have you seen Tom lately?

**D**

We use adjectives after *be/get/become/seem*:

- Be careful!
- As the film went on, it became more and more boring.
- Your friend seems very nice.
- I'm tired and I'm getting hungry.

We also use adjectives to say how somebody/something looks, feels, sounds, tastes or smells:

- You look tired. / I feel tired. / She sounds tired.
- The dinner smells good.
- This tea tastes a bit strange.

But to say how somebody does something you must use an *adverb* (see Units 99–100):

- Drive carefully! (*not* 'Drive careful')
- Susan plays the piano very well. (*not* 'plays...very good')

## Exercise 6 A B

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Read this report about the convergence of mobile phones and handheld computers. Underline either the adjective or adverb each time.

It seems (1) *strange/strangely*, but some people are walking around with a mobile phone, a handheld computer like a Palm, a pager, and even a notebook computer with a (2) *conventional/conventionally* keyboard as well. These digital devices are converging (3) *rapid/rapidly*, but manufacturers are finding it difficult to get all the parts to integrate (4) *properly/properly*. Contemporary mobile phones look (5) *good/well*, are relatively (6) *good/well* at sending short text messages, but don't work (7) *good/well* as handheld computers. They lack memory, synchronise (8) *bad/badly* with desktop PCs, and are not

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(9) *easy/easily* to use for writing emails. (12) *easy/easily* and (13) *cheap/cheaply*, but still allow phone companies to make a profit. Things are moving very (14) *quick/quickly* in this area, and the manufacturers who succeed in getting everything (15) *right/rightly* are going to make (16) *huge/hugely* profits.

**Exercise 3 A**

Complete the sentences with one word from the list A and one word from list B.

- A: badly completely easily extremely heavily quite unexpectedly **well**  
 B: delayed designed helpful illegal late **made** promoted recognisable
- This suitcase is very **well made**. It will last for years and years.
  - The new product is being **promoted**. You see the adverts everywhere.
  - This website is very **helpful**. I can't find the information I need.
  - You've been **delayed**. I really appreciate it.
  - Our offices are **designed**. Look out for the large flags at the front.
  - I'm sorry, my flight has been **delayed**. I'll call you when I arrive.
  - Taking bribes is **illegal**. You'll lose your job if they catch you.
  - I arrived at the presentation **on time** and missed the first part.

**97.3 Complete the sentences using one of the words in the box.**

|                  |                      |                        |
|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| amusing / amused | confusing / confused | exhausting / exhausted |
| amusing / amused | confusing / confused | exhausting / exhausted |
| amusing / amused | confusing / confused | exhausting / exhausted |

- He works very hard. It's not **surprising** that he's always tired.
- I've got nothing to do. I'm **bored**.
- The teacher's explanation was **confusing**. Most of the students didn't understand it.
- The kitchen hadn't been cleaned for ages. It was really **dirty**.
- I seldom visit art galleries. I'm not particularly **interested** in art.
- There's no need to get **excited** just because I'm a few minutes late.
- The lecture was **boring**. I fell asleep.
- I asked Emily if she wanted to come out with us but she wasn't **interested**.
- I've been working very hard all day and now I'm **exhausted**.
- I'm starting a new job next week. I'm quite **excited** about it.
- Tom is very good at telling funny stories. He can be very **amusing**.
- Liz is a very **interesting** person. She knows a lot, she's travelled a lot and she's done lots of different things.

**98.3 Complete each sentence with a verb (in the correct form) and an adjective from the boxes.**

|       |       |       |       |       |             |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------|
| feel  | look  | seem  | awful | fine  | interesting |
| smell | sound | taste | nice  | upset | wet         |

- Ann **seemed** **upset** this morning. Do you know what was wrong?
  - I can't eat this. I've just tried it and it **tastes** **awful**.
  - I wasn't very well yesterday but I **felt** **better** today.
  - What beautiful flowers! They **smell** **so nice**.
  - You **look** **quite** better. Have you been out in the rain?
  - Jim was telling me about his new job. It **seems** **quite** better than his old job.
- 98.4 Choose the correct word.**
- This tea tastes a bit **strange**. (strange/strangely)
  - I always feel **amused** when the sun is shining. (happy/happily)
  - The children were playing **violently** in the garden. (happy/happily)
  - The man became **violent** when the manager of the restaurant asked him to leave. (violent/violently)
  - You look **amused**. Are you all right? (terrible/terribly)
  - There's no point in doing a job if you don't do it **properly**. (proper/property)

**99.3 Complete each sentence using a word from the list. Sometimes you need the adjective (careful etc.) and sometimes the adverb (carefully etc.).**

|               |              |                |                      |             |
|---------------|--------------|----------------|----------------------|-------------|
| careful(ly)   | complete(ly) | continuous(ly) | financial(ly)        | fluent(ly)  |
| happy/happily | nervous(ly)  | perfect(ly)    | <del>quick(ly)</del> | special(ly) |

- Our holiday was too short. The time passed very **quickly**.
- Tom doesn't take risks when he's driving. He's always **careful**.
- Sue works **hard**. She never seems to stop.
- Alice and Stan are very **married**.
- Monica's English is very **fluent** although she makes quite a lot of mistakes.
- I cooked this meal **for you**, so I hope you like it.
- Everything was very quiet. There was **silence**.
- I tried on the shoes and they fitted me **perfectly**.
- Do you usually feel **nervous** before examinations?
- I'd like to buy a car but it's **impossible** for me at the moment.

**100.2 Complete these sentences using well + one of the following words:**

- |          |         |      |         |          |      |       |      |
|----------|---------|------|---------|----------|------|-------|------|
| balanced | behaved | done | dressed | informed | kept | known | paid |
|----------|---------|------|---------|----------|------|-------|------|
- The children were very good. They were **well-behaved**.
  - I'm surprised you haven't heard of her. She is quite **well-known**.
  - Our neighbours' garden is neat and tidy. It is very **well-kept**.
  - You should eat different types of food. Your diet should be **well-balanced**.
  - Ann knows a lot about many things. She is quite **well-informed**.
  - His clothes are always smart. He is always **well-dressed**.
  - Jill has a lot of responsibility in her job but she isn't very **well-paid**.
  - Congratulations on passing your examinations. **Well done!**

**100.3 Are the underlined words right or wrong? Correct the ones that are wrong.**

- I'm tired because I've been working **hard**. **RIGHT**
- I tried hard to remember her name but I couldn't.
- This coat is practically unused. I've **hardly** worn it.
- She's a good tennis player. She hits the ball **hardly**.
- Don't walk so **fast**! I can't keep up with you.
- Why are you walking so **slow**? Are you tired?