

Lesson Name : 44

Lesson Title : Adverb Modifiers

Course Name : English 2 Part 2 [Honors]

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Essential Instruction

It is a good idea to use your digital notebook to keep notes on new grammar concepts that you may need to reference later.

In today's lesson we will think about modifiers. **Modifiers** are words, phrases, and clauses that describe the basic parts of a sentence. The simplest modifiers are adjectives and adverbs. What's nice about complex modifiers, a modifier that might be an entire phrase, for example is that they do the same things that adjectives and adverbs do. So if you understand adjectives and adverbs, you'll understand complex modifiers too. Today we will focus on modifiers that act as adverbs.

Remember, an adverb modifies a verb, an adjective, or another adverb. An adverb answers these questions How? When? Why? Where? To what extent? Each boldface element in the sentences that follow answers one of these questions. You'll notice that a modifier can be a single word, a phrase, or a clause.

The **very** hungry caterpillar ate. (tells to what extent)

I am going **next door**. (tells where)

Alice left **before I came home**. (tells when)

Notice that each modifier appeared next to the word it modified. However, adverbs and adverbial phrases sometimes appear at the beginning of a sentence, where they "set the stage" for the sentence. This is the case in the sample sentences that follow.

**Sometimes** my friends drive me to the park.

**As you know**, there are seven days in the week.

**In the meantime**, practice your math.

An adverb or adverbial phrase or clause sometimes falls at the end of a sentence, as in these sentences:

I need more because my portion was so small.

You can call **when your chores are finished**.

Su Chen will change **after the mission is complete**.

Writers run into trouble when they put a modifier in the wrong place. A misplaced modifier can create the wrong impression! Look at how misplaced phrases cause trouble in the sentences that follow.

**After eating a sandwich**, the door opened to reveal a satisfied boy.

**When offering help**, the stranded motorist should be removed from traffic by the police officer.

What? The door ate a sandwich? The stranded motorist, not the police officer, should offer help? With the modifying phrases where they are in the sentences above, those are the ideas that the sentences communicate. The sentences that follow are examples of how to correct the misplaced modifiers.

The door opened to reveal a boy, satisfied **after eating a sandwich**.

**When offering help**, the police officer should remove the stranded motorist from traffic.

An adverb phrase is a few words that work together to function as an adverb. An adverb clause is slightly different, though. Adverb clauses contain a subject and a verb, though they begin with a subordinate conjunction like because, since, as, or until that keeps them from being a well-formed sentence on their own. Adverb clauses will always tell how, when, or why something happened.

Jane was confused and angry because she didn't understand what had happened.

Bill repeatedly emailed Elizabeth about the assignment until she was nearly crazy.

### Effective Listening Skills

Now we are going to focus on becoming effective listeners. In this listening activity we will analyze how the speaker's narration adds to how the plot unfolds to have a surprise ending. To begin your journey on becoming an effective listener, make sure you follow the steps to active listening. Open the [steps to active listening](#) in a new window.

Now you will focus on becoming an effective listener. Begin by reviewing the [steps for active listening](#) in a new window. Now that you are ready to be an effective listener, open the [podcast](#) in a new window and watch the "Imagery and Irony" segment. How do imagery and point of view impact tone? How do literary and stylistic devices make a story more effective?



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