



## Recognising adverbs 1

You can't always tell by the look of a word that it's an adverb. You can recognise it as an adverb only by the **work it does in a sentence**. A word may be an adverb in one sentence and a different part of speech in another sentence. For example:

The job went **well**.

Here 'well' describes the verb 'went', so it's an adverb.

The **well** was drained by morning.

Here 'well' names something, so it's a noun.

The **well** water tasted disgusting.

Here well is being used to name a type of water, so it's not describing a verb and is not an adverb here.

When you see **-ly** on the end of a word it's a good clue that it's an adverb. Many adverbs are made by adding -ly to the end of adjectives. For example:

'careful' (*adjective*) becomes 'carefully' (*adverb*)

Sunita is very **careful** with her money. She spends her money **carefully**.

However, lots of other adverbs are irregular.

**Beware!** Some words ending in -ly are never used as adverbs: eg friendly, lovely, lonely.

Also look out for adverbs that have the same form as adjectives.

'Hard' and 'early' are both adjectives (used to describe people, places and things) **and** adverbs (used to tell us more about the verb):

It's still **early**. (*adjective*)

We arrived **early**. (*adverb*)

He works very **hard**. (*adverb*)

He's a **hard** man to know. (*adjective*)

Other adverbs with the same form as adjectives are **far, fast, high, low, late** and **long**.