



Adverbs of Manner, Possibility, Time, and Opinion

ADVERBS OF MANNER			
SUBJECT	(AUXILIARY +) VERB	ADVERB	
She	quit	unexpectedly.	
	has quit		

SUBJECT	(AUXILIARY +) VERB	DIRECT OBJECT	ADVERB
She	quit	her job	unexpectedly.
	has quit		

SUBJECT	AUXILIARY	ADVERB	VERB	
She	has	unexpectedly	quit	(her job).

ADVERBS OF POSSIBILITY			
	ADVERB	(AUXILIARY +) VERB	
She	probably	failed	the test.
		has failed	

	ADVERB	BE	
He	definitely	is	at home.

	BE	ADVERB	
He	is	definitely	at home.

	AUXILIARY	ADVERB	VERB
He	has	definitely	left.

<i>MAYBE/PERHAPS</i>	
Maybe	I'll get a raise.
Perhaps	

ADVERBS OF TIME	
Yesterday	I found a new job.
I found a new job	yesterday.

ADVERBS OF OPINION	
Unfortunately,	I failed the test.
I failed the test,	unfortunately.
I	unfortunately failed the test.

Overview

- Adverbs modify or change the meaning of verbs.
- Many adverbs are formed by adding *-ly* to an adjective. See 17.8 for the spelling of adverbs ending in *-ly*.

quick → quickly definite → definitely unfortunate → unfortunately

- Adverbs can occur in different positions in a sentence. However, they never occur between a verb and its object.

She quit her job **unexpectedly**. ✗ She quit unexpectedly her job. (INCORRECT)

Adverbs of Manner

- Adverbs of manner usually come after the verb. In sentences with any auxiliary except *do* (that is, *be*, *have*, or a modal), *-ly* adverbs of manner can also be placed between the auxiliary and the verb.

She has **unexpectedly** quit her job. You should **carefully** consider your options.

They are **quietly** waiting for news. The temperature will **slowly** rise this week.

Adverbs of Possibility

- Adverbs of possibility include words such as *certainly*, *definitely*, *probably*, *maybe*, and *perhaps*.
- When there is no auxiliary in a sentence, *-ly* adverbs of possibility come directly before the verb. In sentences with the main verb *be* or an auxiliary, *-ly* adverbs of possibility can be placed before or after *be* or the auxiliary.
- *Maybe* and *perhaps* come at the beginning of a sentence.

Adverbs of Time

- Adverbs of time can come at the beginning or end of a sentence. They include words such as *yesterday*, *today*, *tomorrow*, *now*, *recently*, and *soon*.
- *Recently* can also occur before the verb or between the auxiliary and the verb.

I **recently** found a new job. I have **recently** found a new job.

Adverbs of Opinion

- Most adverbs of opinion can occur at the beginning or end of a sentence or before the verb. They include words such as *fortunately*, *happily*, *incredibly*, *luckily*, *obviously*, *strangely*, and *surprisingly*.