

An **adverb** is a word that qualifies the action of the verb, that is, it specifies how or when the action is performed. In English, many adverbs are indicated by the **-ly** ending. In French, most adverbs end in **-ment**.

<b>lentement</b>	<b>slowly</b>
<b>attentivement</b>	<b>carefully</b>
<b>souvent</b>	<b>often</b>

Adverbs answer questions about the action: how? how much? when? and where? While most adverbs in French and English modify verbs, they can also modify other adverbs as well as adjectives.

*verb modified by adverb*

Ecoute **attentivement**.

Listen **carefully**.

*adverb modified by adverb*

**trop** lentement

**too** slowly

*adjective modified by adverb*

**extrêmement** silencieux

**extremely** quiet

### Adverb vs. Adjective

It is common in non-standard English for speakers to use adjectives in place of adverbs.

**Tex writes good.** (instead of 'well')

**Aggies talk too slow.** (instead of 'slowly')

While this alternation is common in English, it is not common in French where adjectives are rarely used in place of the adverb. Remember that adverbs modify verbs (as well as other adverbs and adjectives) and adjectives modify nouns.

Tex écrit **bien**.

Tex writes well.

La poésie de Tex est **bonne**.

Tex's poetry is good.

