

Before you start

1 Review these intermediate grammar points and check you know them.

Adjectives

1 Adjectives are words which give extra information about nouns. They do not change their form to show number or gender:

*The hero was played by a **young** boy. Several **young** girls took the secondary roles.*

2 Many adjectives are formed from other words:

history → historic beauty → beautiful depend → dependent effect → effective

3 We often use the past (-ed) and present (-ing) participles as adjectives to describe feelings or emotions.

We use the -ing form to describe a feeling that something causes:

*It was a **frightening** film. (= It frightened us/made us feel afraid.)*

We use the -ed form to describe a feeling that someone experiences:

*I felt **frightened** when I watched that film. (= I was frightened/experienced fear.)*

Inanimate objects cannot have feelings so we don't usually use -ed adjectives about feelings to describe them:

~~✗ *The report into police behaviour during the demonstration was rather worried.*~~

✓ *The report was rather **worrying**. (= The report made readers feel anxious.)*

4 We can also combine words to make compound adjectives, e.g. *home-made*, *Spanish-speaking*.

Adverbs

1 Adverbs are words which modify or give extra information about verbs, adjectives, other words or whole clauses. Here are some common examples:

not formed from other words	<i>here just never quite soon still tomorrow too well</i>	
fixed phrases	<i>at last kind of of course</i>	
formed from other words	adjective + -ly (note spelling)	<i>easy → easily excitable → excitably real → really tragic → tragically</i>
	compounds	<i>some + times → sometimes</i>

2 The most common use of adverbs is to modify adjectives; the adverb usually comes before the adjective:

*I thought his answers were **pretty good** on the whole.*

*Those cars are **terribly expensive**.*

Some adverbs, e.g. *really, almost, quite, pretty*, can modify another adverb:

*The French team did **quite well** in the first round.*