

POSITION OF ADVERBS

Adverbs are generally placed at three (3) different places in a sentence these are:

- a. In the beginning of a sentence.

Example:

Suddenly, the dog barked at the stranger.

- b. In the middle of a sentence.

- i. Next to the main verb.

Examples:

1. They **completely** forgot about their appointment with the chairman.
2. He recovered **slowly** from his illness.

- ii. After first helping verb

Examples:

1. He **has** **occasionally** been absent from the school.
2. We **have** **often** been called by them.

- iii. Used after helping verb (when a sentence has a single helping verb) but before the main verb.

Examples:

1. She is **always** *late* for everything.
2. They are **seldomly** *complaining* about things.

- iv. After a modal verb but before a main verb

Examples:

1. We could **definitely** *predict* the result based on his performance.
2. The machine might not **properly** *handle* the weight after this repair.

- v. Between a modal verb and a helping verb

Examples:

1. We could **certainly** *have* used our car if we had it.
2. They would **surely** *have* got themselves used to the situation by now.

- vi. When Be verb (helping verb) is emphasized, the adverb comes before the Be verb

Examples:

1. I **never** *was* a supporter of their policies.
2. They **always** *had* opportunities, but they their actions were wrong.

- vii. When an adverb is used in a question statement, the adverb is used between the subject and the main verb.

Examples:

1. Did you **ever** *think* of going there?
2. Why does he **frequently** *lie* about his achievements?

- c. At the end of the sentence.

Example:

1. He has been working **well**.
2. He is driving **very** fast.
3. It is very warm **here**.

Adverbs are never placed between a verb and the object.

Examples:

1. We play **often** *handball*.
2. I ate **quickly** *my food*.
3. They are writing **slowly** *a letter*.

TABLE OF PLACEMENT OF ADVERBS

ADVERB	POSITION	EXAMPLE
Manner	<p>They usually go in end position.</p> <p>They sometimes go in mid position if the adverb is not the most important part of the clause or if the object is very long.</p>	<p>She ate quickly.</p> <p>She quickly ate her dinner and ran out.</p>
Place	<p>They usually go in end position.</p> <p>They sometimes go in front position, especially in writing.</p>	<p>Can you come over here?</p> <p>We'll be at that table there.</p> <p>Here she sat.</p> <p>Outside, there was a small pond.</p>
Time	<p>They usually go in end position.</p> <p>They sometimes go in front position especially if we want to emphasize the adverb.</p>	<p>I'm flying to Edinburgh tomorrow.</p> <p>Today, I'm going to clean the house.</p>
Duration (Time)	<p>They usually go in end position.</p>	<p>I'm not staying long.</p>
Frequency	<p>They usually go in mid position.</p> <p>They sometimes go in front position.</p> <p>They can also go in end position.</p> <p>Always, ever and never do not usually go in front position.</p>	<p>We often have friends to stay.</p> <p>I usually get up late on weekends.</p> <p>I could never swim fast.</p> <p>Sometimes she wore a woolen hat.</p> <p>We don't see them very often.</p>
Degree	<p>Really, very, quite usually go in mid position.</p> <p>A lot and a bit usually go in end position.</p>	<p>I really like those pink flowers.</p> <p>We go to Ireland a lot.</p> <p>I would just like to change things a bit.</p>
Focusing	<p>They usually go in mid position.</p>	<p>He simply walked out without saying a word.</p>
Certainty Or Obligation	<p>Some go in mid position: probably, possibly, certainly.</p> <p>Others go in front position: maybe, perhaps or in end positions after a comma.</p>	<p>It will probably rain.</p> <p>Maybe Nick will know the answer.</p> <p>Can I get you a drink, or something to eat, perhaps?</p>

Viewpoint	<p>They usually go outside the clause, often at the beginning.</p> <p>They can sometimes go in mid position, especially in formal writing.</p>	<p>Personally, I'd rather not go out.</p> <p>This must, frankly, be the craziest idea anyone has ever had.</p>
Evaluative	<p>They usually go outside the clause, often at the beginning.</p> <p>They can sometimes go in mid position.</p> <p>In informal speaking they can go in end position.</p>	<p>Unfortunately, I forgot my swimming costume so I had to sit on the side and watch.</p> <p>We have stupidly forgotten the tickets.</p> <p>He missed the bus, apparently.</p>
Purpose Or Connecting	<p>It may be used in the beginning of a sentence.</p> <p>They may go in the middle of a sentence, after a verb.</p> <p>Can be used after an object, at the end.</p>	<p>As a result of his hard work, he managed to restart his business.</p> <p>We thus had no difficulty in finding the motel.</p> <p>We have, therefore, decided to do it.</p> <p>I had written to him intentionally.</p>