

Modifier of adverb and preposition

7.33 An adverb may premodify another adverb:

very heavily *surprisingly* well
extremely quickly so clearly

Adverbs modifying other adverbs can only be intensifiers. On postmodifying *enough* and *indeed*, see 7.32 Note.

A few intensifying adverbs, particularly *right* and *well*, premodify prepositions:

The nail went *right* through the wall.
 He made his application *well* within the time.
 Her parents are *dead* against the trip. <informal>

Modifier of pronoun, predeterminer, and numeral

7.34 Intensifying adverbs can premodify:

(a) indefinite pronouns (cf 6.21ff):

Nearly <everybody> came to our party.

(b) predeterminers (cf 5.7ff):

They recovered *roughly* <half> their equipment.

(c) cardinal numerals (cf 6.28 Note [b]):

Over/under <two hundred> deaths were reported.

(d) ordinals and superlatives (cf 7.39) in which case a definite determiner is obligatory:

We counted *approximately* <the first> thousand votes.
 She gave me *almost* <the largest> piece of cake.

Modifier of noun phrase

7.35 A few intensifiers may premodify noun phrases and precede the determiner when they do so. The most common among adverbs are *quite* and *rather* <esp BrE>:

We had *quite* a party.
 They were *quite* some players.
 It was *rather* a mess. <esp BrE>

The predeterminers *such* and *what* have a similar function:

He is *such* a fool. *What* a mess they made!

A few intensifiers precede the indefinite article when it is equivalent to the numeral *one*:

They will stay for *about* a week.
Nearly a thousand demonstrators attended the meeting.

NOTE [a] *Kind of* and *sort of* (both informal) usually follow the determiner:

This must be a *sort of* joke.

Other *of*-phrases precede the determiner:

I had *a bit of* a shock.

[b] *Ever* can be an intensifier with interrogative *wh*-words:

Why *ever* should she apply for such a post?

7.36 Some time and place adverbs postmodify nouns:

the meeting *yesterday* her trip *abroad*
 the meal *afterwards* the way *ahead*

Others may either premodify or postmodify:

the *downstairs* hall the hall *downstairs*
 the *above* quotation the quotation *above*

A very few may only premodify:

an *away* game *inside* information

NOTE *Else* can postmodify:

[a] compound indefinite pronouns and compound adverbs in *-body*, *-one*, *-where*, etc:

somebody else, *someone else's*, *nowhere else*, *something else*

[b] interrogative *wh*-pronouns and *wh*-adverbs:

who else, *what else*, *how else*, *when else*

[c] singular *all*, *much*, *a great/good deal*, *a lot*, *little*:

all else, *much else*, *little else*.

Adverb as complement of preposition

7.37 Some place and time adverbs function as complement of a preposition:

over <i>here</i>	since <i>recently</i>
near <i>there</i>	till <i>then</i>
from <i>abroad</i>	from <i>now</i>
from <i>behind</i>	for <i>ever</i>

Correspondence between adjective and adverb

7.38 We have earlier observed (7.27) that open-class adverbs are regularly, though not invariably, derived from adjectives by suffixation. There is another sense in which adjectives and adverbs are related. A correspondence often exists between constructions containing adjectives and