

# Adverbs

Verbs tell of something being done;  
To *read, count, sing, laugh, jump* or *run*.  
How things are done the ADVERBS tell;  
As *slowly, quickly, ill* or *well*.

Most adverbs are formed by adding 'ly' to an adjective. Check the spelling rules on 'ly' endings.
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ANON.

1. Pick out ten words from the list which you do not know and look up their meanings in a dictionary. Copy the words and definitions into your books.
2. Some of the words in the list have very similar meanings. E.g. **rapidly** and **swiftly**. See how many matching pairs of adverbs you can find. Copy the pairs into your books. Underline the most interesting and original adverb.
3. Select ten adverbs. Change them back into adjectives. List ten of your own adjectives. Turn them into adverbs. Use the 'ly ending' spelling rules to help you. Check your spellings in a dictionary.
4. Any verb you use could have an adverb. E.g. She got up **energetically**. The car braked **fiercely**. The moon shone **coldly**. Write ten sentences, using adverbs as **imaginatively** as you can to create a precise effect.
5. **Occasionally**, you could start a sentence with an adverb. This will add variety to your sentence openings and structures. Write ten sentences starting with an adverb. E.g. Slowly, .... Tragically, ... Mysteriously, ... Luckily, ...

tightly calmly apprehensively politely warily slyly angrily firmly sadly idly  
suspiciously jauntily furtively awkwardly cunningly cautiously furiously  
relentlessly dejectedly swiftly morosely shiftily sheepishly gracefully anxiously  
carefully slyly guiltily obviously deftly rapidly nervously nimbly nonchalantly  
stealthily craftily placidly grimly wickedly cruelly eagerly stubbornly daintily  
clumsily sedately gently frantically jocularly sternly jovially viciously truthfully  
meanly sharply restlessly menacingly urgently maliciously valiantly fiercely  
boldly joyfully monstrously desperately bravely luckily mysteriously tragically  
hurriedly willingly falsely crazily lovingly bashfully threateningly eloquently  
peculiarly regrettably seriously obviously merrily admittedly suddenly obstinately  
devilishly faithfully drolly haughtily grimly gutsily gradually graciously edgily  
ecstatically devotedly lazily morosely proudly arrogantly feebly

# Adverb Poems

## *Slowly*

Slowly the tide creeps up the sand,  
Slowly the shadows cross the land.  
Slowly the cart-horse pulls his mile,  
Slowly the old man mounts his stile.

Slowly the hands move round the clock,  
Slowly the dew dries on the dock.  
Slow is the snail – but slowest of all  
The green moss spreads on the old brick wall.

JAMES REEVES

## Writing

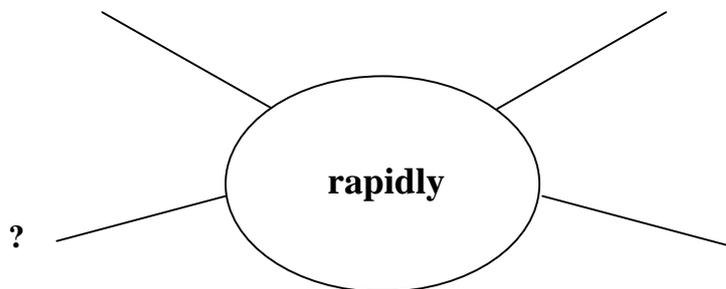
Write a similar poem. Either choose an adverb yourself or use one from this list: quietly, gently, softly, lightly, swiftly, brightly, loudly.

Before you begin, collect your ideas together by drawing a spider diagram. Below is the start of a diagram for the word 'rapidly'. Suggest other ideas to complete the diagram.

Then, draw a spider diagram of your own for the word you have chosen. Draw an oval shape for the spider's body and write your adverb in it. Then, draw lines to represent the spider's legs. As you think of an idea, write it down by one of the lines.

**Meteors shooting across the sky**

**burst of gunfire**



Collect pictures and photographs that you can use to illustrate your adverb poem.