**The Use of Adjectives and Adverbs**

Both adjectives and adverbs are modifiers which qualify or limit other words in a sentence, giving more information, clarifying, or denoting meaning.

1. Adjectives say that something is or seems like and they are in two positions:

* Attributive position i.e. before nouns: a lovely song ; a nasty smell
* Predicative position i.e. in the complement of a sentence usually after be, seem, appear, look, sound, taste, feel, smell, become: she is lovely/ it smells nasty.

**Forms of adjectives:**

A large amount of adjectives are made from the following suffixes: -al, -ish, -ive, -ly, -like, and –ous; e.g. International, mannish, expensive, lovely, child-like, famous.

**Rules:**

1. In a formal style, there is a special use for adjectives with as, how, so, too, i.e. the word order follows the following construction :

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| As/ how/ so/ too+ adjective+ a/an+ noun |

Examples:

* She is as pleasant a girl as I have ever met
* It is so hot a day that I drink water endlessly
* How a nasty a man he is
* It is too delicious a soup to refuse

1. When several adjectives are used before nouns there is no particular rule about their order but generally grammars agree that:

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| Adjectives for age, shape, size, and temperature come first before color, adjectives, before adjectives telling the origin of something, before adjectives saying what something is made of, before adjectives telling the purpose of something respectively. |

Examples:

* It is a square red Mexican muddy garden gate.
* A round yellow Italian golden ring finger.

1. Adverbs give more information about the action saying how, where, or when it is done. E.g. she eats quickly, they are here, and he comes later on.

The use of adverbs is different according to what they modify:

1. Verbs: he speaks English perfectly.
2. Adjectives: she is terribly dreadful.
3. Other adverbs: he speaks deadly slowly.
4. A whole clause: actually, I agree with you.
5. Prepositional phrase: she becomes completely out of her mind.

There are three normal positions for adverbs:

* Mid-position (before the verb, or part of the verb)

-I very much like potatoes

-He has always been on time

* End-position (at the end of a clause)

-The train arrived late

-It rains suddenly

* Initial position (at the beginning of a clause)

-Yesterday I met her.

-Actually, I cannot come

**Rules:**

1. The position of adverbs is important in English because it may change meaning

Compare:

-Naturally, he writes a letter. (Of course)

-He writes a letter naturally. (In a natural way)

1. An adverb or an adverbial phrase may be taken out of its normal position, especially after initial negative adverbs where is an inversion of subject and verb to which the adverb relates (using the auxiliary do if necessary). E.g.

-Little does he acts to prove his innocence

-No sooner had he done an accident

3- There are some confusing cases between adjectives and adverbs especially words ending by –ly and are adjectives not adverbs e.g. friendly and lovely

1. Both adjectives and adverbs may have the same form e.g. fast, bloody
2. Adverbs may have sometimes two forms e.g. late and lately, dead and deadly.