

Grammar Lesson 3

Modifiers

Objectives

- Define and recognize adjectives and adverbs
- Diagram sentences using adjectives and adverbs

New Parts of Speech

- **Adjective**

- A word used to describe a noun or a pronoun

- **Adverb**

- A word used to describe a verb, adjective, or another adverb

- *These will now be added to our other parts of speech: nouns, pronouns, action verbs, and conjunctions.*

Adjective

- Adjectives describe or *modify* nouns and pronouns.
- They give us more information about those nouns and pronouns, modifying our understanding of the words.
- That's why they are called *modifiers*.
- Adjectives tell us, *which one? what kind? and how many?*


Examples

- Which one?
- **This** dog. **That** cat. **These** slippers. **Those** barnacles. **A** rose. **The** flowers. **An** elephant.
- What kind?
 - A **red** rose. A **sleepy** dog. The **snooty** cat. These **glass** slippers. Those **wet** barnacles.
- How many?
 - **One** red rose. **Five** sleepy dogs. **Ten** snooty cats. **Two** glass slippers.

Articles

- Articles are the simplest adjectives.
- They are: **a**, **an**, and **the**.
- They tell us some very basic information about “which one”
- If I ask for **a** cat, I don't care which cat I get. If I ask for **the** cat, I have a specific one in mind.

Adverbs

- Adverbs are like adjectives, but instead of modifying nouns and pronouns, they modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.
- Adverbs tell us **how, why, when, where, to what extent.**
- **Write this down!** 
- This is a little trickier, so we'll give a page to each type.

LY

- Adverbs often end in LY
- Not always, though. If you remember the five questions, you'll be more like to find your adverbs than if you just look for ly's.

Verbs

- Adverbs can modify verbs.
- Dogs drool. (How do they drool?) Dogs drool prettily. or noisily, or sloppily.
- Cats judge. (When do they judge?) Cats judge daily. or *often*, or frequently, or sporadically.
- Spiders climb. (Where do spiders climb?) Spiders climb up, or down, or left or right, or west!

Adjectives

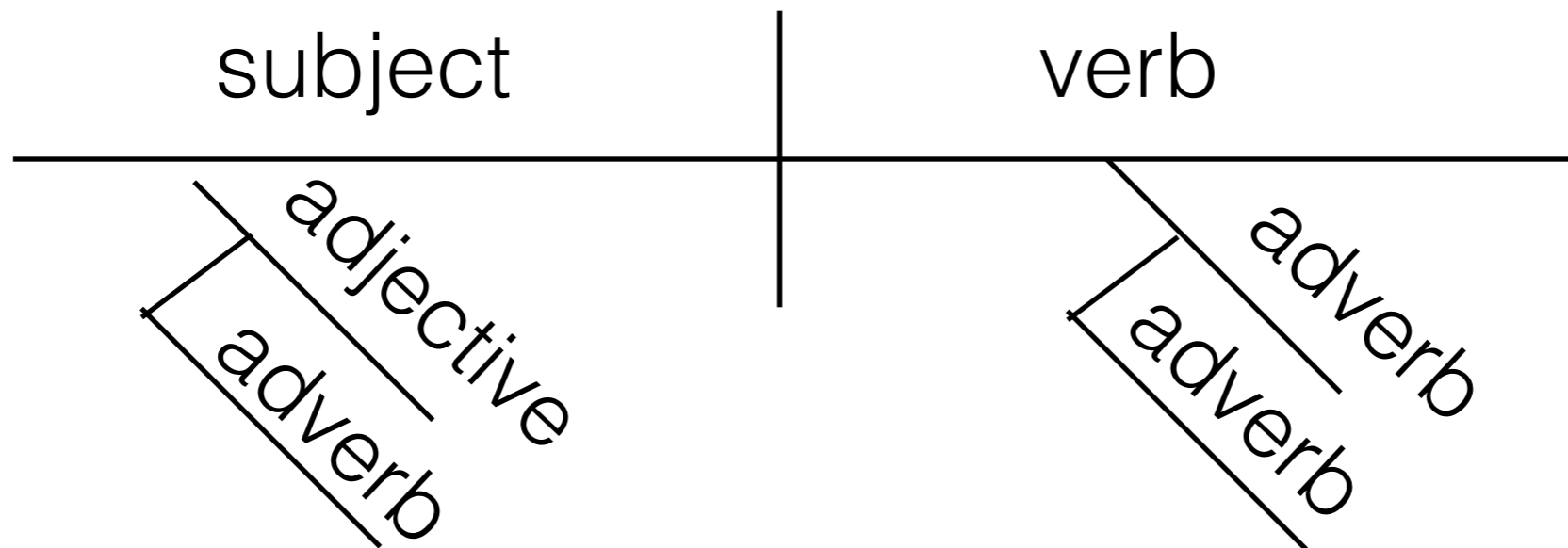
- Adverbs can also modify adjectives.
- The *yellow* duck swam happily. (**To what extent** is the duck yellow?) The **very** yellow duck.
- The *rotten* sandwich pouted. (**To what extent** is the sandwich rotten?) The **partially** rotten sandwich pouted.

Other Adverbs

- Adverbs can modify other adverbs.
- The dog ran away quickly. How quickly did he run? **(to what extent?)** The dog ran away **ridiculously** quickly.
- Look at all the adverbs in that sentence. Let's see what modifies what.

Diagramming

- Modifiers hang off the words they modify.



Practice

- Let's do this together.
- I'll do a few and then you guys walk me through a few.

The yellow duckling swam
happily.

An ugly old swallow sang
quite lustily.

John's friendly dog died
yesterday.

My incredibly old chair
creaks quite embarrassingly.

An aging, dilapidated barn
stood solemnly.

The eager hamster flattered
incredibly profusely.

Now it's your turn

- In small groups (3-4 peeps), compare your notes to make sure you all have working, understandable definitions for the new terms we learned today,
 - Adjectives, and Adverbs.
- Each group should also create one sentence that includes an article, a regular adjective, and adverb to modify that adjective, an action verb, an adverb to modify the verb, and an adverb to modify the adverb. Basically, write a sentence that fits in the diagram below:

