Adjectives and Adverbs

Adjectives modify nouns and pronouns. Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

Adjectives

Ex.: The lonely boy petted the black-and-white cat.

(The adjective lonely modifies the noun boy, and the adjective black-and-white modifies the noun cat.)

Ex.: The students are very talkative because there is a young, good-looking teacher teaching the class today.

(The adjective talkative modifies the noun students, and the adjectives young and good-looking modify the noun teacher.)

Ex.: Everyone is happy: she seems lenient and nice.

(The adjective happy modifies the pronoun everyone, and the adjectives lenient and nice modify the pronoun she.)

Adverbs

Ex.: The cellist played well, and the audience applauded enthusiastically.

(The adverb well modifies the verb played, and the adverb enthusiastically modifies the verb applauded.)

Ex.: Although the summers in Maryland are extremely humid, the winters are quite mild.

(The adverb extremely modifies the adjective humid, and the adverb quite modifies the adjective mild.)

Ex.: An ice cube melts very quickly when it’s dropped into water that is boiling so rapidly.

(The adverb quickly modifies the verb melts, and the adverb very modifies the adverb quickly; the adverb rapidly modifies the verb is boiling, and the adverb so modifies the adverb rapidly.)