Adjectives and adverbs

Grammatik · Englisch · Klasse 7 bis 12

Comparison

Rule	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
one syllable: -er, -est	cheap	cheaper	the cheapest
short vowel + consonant: double it	hot	hotter	the hottest
two syllables ending in -y: -ier, -iest	busy	busier	the busiest
two or more syllables: more, most	careful	more careful	the most careful
irregular	good / bad / far	better / worse / further	the best / the worst / the furthest

Forming adverbs

Adjective	Adverb	Note
slow, careful	slowly, carefully	+ ly
happy, easy	happily, easily	y becomes i
gentle, possible	gently, possibly	-le becomes -ly
basic, dramatic	basically, dramatically	-ic + ally
good	well	irregular
fast, hard, late, early	fast, hard, late, early	same form (hardly = kaum, lately = in letzter Zeit)
friendly, lovely, silly	in a friendly way	adjectives ending in -ly have no adverb

Comparing adverbs

Pattern	Example
-ly adverbs: more, most	She drove more carefully than him.
short adverbs: -er, -est	He works harder than anyone.
the + comparative, the + comparative	The more you practise, the better you get.
as + adverb + as	He didn’t answer as quickly as I expected.

Word order

Kind of adverb	Position	Example
frequency (always, often, never)	before the main verb, after be	She often calls. She is never late.
manner (quickly, well)	after the verb or object	He speaks English well.
place, then time	at the end	We met at the station yesterday.
degree (very, extremely, quite)	before the adjective or adverb	It was extremely cold.

Order of adjectives

opinion, size, age, shape, colour, origin, material, purpose, then the noun: a lovely little old round blue Italian glass fruit bowl.

Watch out

- After linking verbs (be, seem, look, feel, smell, taste, sound, become) use the adjective: She seems nervous.
- Same verb, different meaning: He looked angry (adjective: appearance). He looked angrily at me (adverb: the way he looked).
- further for extra or more distant: further information. farther only for distance.