## THE ADVERB

328. Read the following sentences:- 1. Rama runs quickly.

1. This is a very sweet mango.
2. Govind reads quite clearly.

In sentence 1, quickly shows how (or in what manner) Rama runs; that is, quickly modifies the Verb runs.

In sentence 2, very shows how much (or in what degree) the mango is sweet; that is, very modifies the Adjective sweet.

In sentence 3, quite shows how far (or to what extent) Govind reads clearly; that is, quite modifies the Adverb clearly.

A word that modifies the meaning of a verb, an adjective, or another Adverb is called an Adverb. The words quickly, very, and quite are, therefore, Adverbs.

Def.- An Adverb is a word which modifies the meaning of a Verb, an Adjective or another Adverb.

1. In the following sentences Adverbs modify phrases:- She was sitting close beside him.

At what hour is the sun right above us?

Have you read all through this book?

She was dressed all in white.

He paid his debts down to the last penny.

1. Adverbs standing at the beginning of sentences sometimes modify the whole sentence, rather than any particular word; as,

Probably he is mistaken. [=It is probable that he is mistaken.] Possibly it is as you say. Certainly you are wrong.

Evidently the figures are incorrect.

Unfortunately no one was present there. Luckily he escaped unhurt.

## Kinds of Adverbs

331. Adverbs may be divided into the following classes, according to their meaning :- (1) Adverbs of Time (which show when) I have heard this before. That day he arrrived late.

We shall now begin to work.

He called here a few minutes ago.

I had a letter from him lately.

The end soon came.

He comes here daily.

I hurt my knee yesterday.

I have spoken to him already. Wasted time never returns. He once met me in Cairo

I have not seen him since.

Mr. Gupta formerly lived here.

(2) Adverbs of Frequency (which show how often).

I have told you twice.

I have not seen him once. He often makes mistakes; He seldom comes here.

The postman called again.

He always tries to do his best.

He frequently comes unprepared.

1. Adverbs of Place (which show where).

Stand here.

Go there.

The little lamb followed Mary everywhere.

My brother is out.

Come in.

Walk backward.

He looked up.

Is Mr. Das within?

The horse galloped away.

1. Adverbs of Manner (which show how or in what manner).

The Sikhs fought bravely.

The boy works hard.

I was agreeably disappointed.

Is that so?

Thus only, will you succeed.

Govind reads clearly.

This story is well written.

The child slept soundly.

Slowly and sadly we laid him down.

You should not do so.

[Note-This class includes nearly all those Adverbs which are derived from adjectives and end in -ly.]

(5) Adverbs of Degree or Quantity (which show how much, or in what degree or to what extent).

He was too careless.

Is that any better?

These mangoes are almost ripe.

I am fully prepared.

You are quite wrong.

The sea is very stormy.

I am rather busy.

He is good enough for my purpose.

I am so glad.

You are partly right.

You are altogether mistaken.

Things are no better at present.

She sings pretty well.

He is as tall as Rama.

1. Adverbs of Affirmation and Negation Surely you are mistaken. He certainly went.

1. Adverbs of Reason

He is hence unable to refute the charge.

He therefore left school.

1. Some of the above Adverbs may belong to more than one class

She sings delightfully. (Adverb of Manner)

The weather is delightfully cool. (Adverb of Degree)

Don't go far. (Adverb of Place)

He is far better now. (Adverb of Degree)

Note- The above are all examples of Simple Adverbs (See § 336)

1. Yes and no, when they are used by themselves, are equivalents of sentences.

Have you typed the letter? Yes.

[Here yes stands for the sentence I have typed the letter'.] Are you going to Japan? No.

[Here no means 'I am not going to Japan.]

## THE ADJECTIVE

67. Read the following sentences :-

1. Sita is a clever girl. (Girl of what kind1?)
2. I don't like that boy, (Which boy ?)
3. He gave me five mangoes. (How many mangoes?)
4. There is little time for preparation. (How much time ?)

In sentence 1, ‘clever’ shows what kind of girl Sita is; or, in other words, ‘clever’ describes the girl Sita.

In sentence 2, ‘that’ points out which boy is meant.

In sentence 3, ‘five’ shows how many mangoes he gave me.

In sentence 4, ‘little’ shows how much time there is for preparation.

A word used with a noun to describe or point out, the person, animal, place or thing which the noun names, or to tell the number or quantity, is called an Adjective.

So we may define an Adjective as a word used with a noun to add something for its meaning.

[Adjective means added to.]

68. Look at the following sentences:-

1. The lazy boy was punished.
2. The boy is lazy.

In sentence 1, the Adjective lazy is used along with the noun boy as an epithet or attribute. It is, therefore, said to be used Attributively. In sentence 2, the Adjective lazy is used along with the verb is,

and forms part of the Predicate. It is, therefore, said to be used Predicatively.

Some Adjectives can be used only Predicatively; as,

She is afraid of ghosts.

I am quite well.

## Kinds of Adjectives

Adjectives may be divided into the following classes:-

1. Adjectives of Quality (or Descriptive Adjective) show the kind or quality of a person or thing; as,

Kolkata is a large city.

He is an honest man.

The foolish old crow tried to sing.

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(Adjectives formed from Proper Nouns (e.g., French wines, Turkish tobacco, Indian tea, etc.) are sometimes called Proper Adjectives. They are generally classed with Adjectives of Quality) language.

Adjectives of Quality answer the question : Of what kind ?

1. Adjectives of Quantity show how much of a thing is meant as,

I ate some rice.

He showed much patience.

He has little intelligence.

We have had enough exercise.

He has lost all his wealth.

You have no sense.

He did not eat any rice.

Take great care of your health.

He claimed his half share of the booty.

There has not been sufficient rain this year.

The whole sum was expended.

Adjectives of Quantity answer the question: How much?

71. Adjectives of Number (or Numeral Adjectives) show how many persons or things are meant, or in what order a person or thing stands; as,

The hand has five fingers.

Few cats like cold water.

There are no pictures in this book.

I have taught you many things.

All men must die.

Here are some ripe mangoes.

Most boys like cricket.

There are several mistakes in your exercise.

Sunday is the first day of the week

72. Adjectives of Number (or Numeral Adjectives) are of three kinds:- (i) Definite Numeral Adjectives, which denote an exact number; as, One, two, three, etc. -- These are called Cardinals.

First, second, third, etc. -- These are called Ordinals.

[A Cardinal denotes how many, and an Ordinal the order of things in a series. It will be seen that Ordinals really do the work of Demonstrative Adjectives. See 74]

1. Indefinite Numeral Adjectives, which do not denote an exact number; as, All, no; many, few; some, any; certain, several, sundry.

1. Distributive Numeral Adjectives, which refer to each one of a number; as., Each boy must take his turn.

India expects every man to do his duty.

Every word of it is false.

Either pen will do.

On either side is a narrow lane.

Neither accusation is true.

73. The same Adjective may be classed as of Quantity or Number, according to its use.

### Adjectives of Quantity -- Adjectives of Number

I ate some rice. -- Some boys are clever.

He has lost all his wealth. -- All men must die.

You have no sense. -- There are no pictures in this book.

He did not eat any rice. -- Are there any mango-trees in this garden? I have enough sugar. -- There are not enough spoons.

74. Demonstrative Adjectives point out which person or thing is meant; as,

This boy is stronger than Hari.

That boy is industrious.

These mangoes are sour.

Those rascals must be punished.

Yonder fort once belonged to Shivaji.

Don't be in such a hurry.

I hate such things.

Demonstrative Adjectives answer the question: Which ?

[It will be noticed that this and that are used with Singular nouns and these and those with Plural nouns.]

75. What, which and whose, when they are used with nouns toask questions, are called Interrogative Adjectives; as,

What manner of man is he?

Which way shall we go?

Whose book is this?

[It will be seen that what is used in a general sense, and which in a selective sense.]

## Formation of Adjectives

79. (i) Many Adjectives are formed from Nouns.

### Noun -- Adjective

Boy -- boyish

Fool -- foolish

Dirt -- dirty

Storm – stormy

Care -- careful

Pardon -- pardonable

Play -- playful

Laugh -- laughable

Hope -- hopeful

Outrage -- outrageous

Venture -- venturesome

Courage -- courageous

Trouble -- troublesome

Glory -- glorious

Shame -- shameless

Envy -- envious

Sense -- senseless

Man -- manly

Silk -- silken

King -- kingly

Gold -- golden

Gift -- gifted

## COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

80. Read these sentences:

1. Rama's mango is sweet.
2. Hari's mango is sweeter than Rama's.
3. Govind's mango is the sweetest of all.

In sentence 1, the adjective sweet merely tells us that Rama's mango has the quality of sweetness, without saying how much of this quality it has.

In sentence 2, the adjective sweeter tells us that Hari's mango, compared with Rama's, has more of the quality of sweetness.

In sentence 3, the adjective sweetest tells us that of all these mangoes Govind's mango has the greatest amount or highest degree of the quality of sweetness.

We thus see that Adjectives change in form (sweet, sweeter, sweetest) to show comparison. They are called the three Degrees of Comparison.

The Adjective sweet is said to be in the Positive Degree.

The Adjective sweeter is said to be in the Comparative Degree. The Adjective sweetest is said to be in the Superlative Degree.

The Positive Degree of an Adjective is the Adjective in its simple form. It is used to denote the mere existence of some quality of what we speak about. It is used when no comparison is made.

The Comparative Degree of an Adjective denotes a higher degree of the quality than the Positive, and is used when two things (or sets of things) are compared; as, This boy is stronger than that.

Which of these two pens is the better?

Apples are dearer than oranges.

The Superlative Degree of an Adjective denotes the highest degree of the quality, and is used when more than two things (or sets of things) are compared; as, This boy is the strongest in the class.

Note 1:- There is another way in which we can compare things. Instead of saying 'Rama is stronger than Balu we can say 'Balu is less strong than Rama'. Instead of saying 'Hari is the laziest boy in the class', we can say 'Hari is the least industrious boy in the class7.

Note 2:- The Superlative with most is sometimes used where there is no idea of comparison, but merely a desire to indicate the possession of a quality in a very high degree; as,

This is most unfortunate.

It was a most eloquent speech.

Truly, a most ingenious device!

This usage has been called the Superlative of Eminence, or the Absolute Superlative.

## Formation of Comparative and Superlative

81. Most Adjectives of one syllable, and some of more than one, form the Comparative by adding er and the Superlative by adding est to the positive.

### Positive -- Comparative -- Superlative

Sweet -- sweeter -- sweetest

Small -- smaller -- smallest

Tall -- taller -- tallest

Bold -- bolder -- boldest

Clever -- cleverer -- cleverest

Kind -- kinder -- kindest

Young -- younger -- youngest

Great -- greater -- greatest

When the Positive ends in e, only r and st are added.

Brave -- braver -- bravest

Fine -- finer -- finest

White -- whiter -- whitest

Large -- larger -- largest Able -- abler -- ablest

Noble -- nobler -- noblest

Wise -- wiser -- wisest

When the Positive ends in j, preceded by a consonant, the y is changed into i before adding er and est.

Happy -- happier -- happiest

Easy -- easier -- easiest

Heavy -- heavier -- heaviest

Merry -- merrier -- merriest

Wealthy -- wealthier -- wealthiest

When the Positive is a word of one syllable and ends in a single consonant, preceded by a short vowel, this consonant is doubled before adding er and est.

Red -- redder -- reddest

Big -- bigger -- biggest

Hot -- hotter -- hottest

Thin -- thinner -- thinnest

Sad -- sadder -- saddest

Fat -- fatter -- fattest

82. Adjectives of more than two syllables form the Comparative and Superlative by putting more and most before the Positive.

### Positive -- Comparative -- Superlative

Beautiful -- more beautiful -- most beautiful

Difficult -- more difficult -- most difficult

Industrious -- more industrious -- most industrious

Courageous -- more courageous -- most courageous

Two-syllable adjectives ending infill (e.g. useful), less (e.g. hope less), ing (e.g. boring) and ed (e.g. surprised) and many others (e.g. modern, recent, foolish, famous, certain) take more and most.

The following take either er and est or more and most. : polite simple feeble gentle

narrow

cruel common handsome

pleasant stupid

She is politer/more polite than her sister.

He is the politest/most polite of them.

1. The-Comparative-in er is not used when we compare two qualities in the same person or thing. If we wish to say that the courage of Rama is greater than the courage of Balu, we say

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Rama is braver than Balu.

But if we wish to say that the courage of Rama is greater than his prudence, we must say, Rama is more brave than prudent.

1. When two objects are compared with each other, the latter term of comparison must exclude the former; as,

Iron is more useful than any other metal.

If we say,

Iron is more useful than any metal,

that is the same thing as saying 'Iron is more useful than iron' since iron is itself a metal.

## Irregular Comparison

85. The following Adjectives are compared irregularly, that is, their Comparative and Superlative are not formed from the Positive:-

### Positive -- Comparative -- Superlative

Good, well -- better -- best

Bad, evil, ill -- worse -- worst

Little -- less, lesser -- least

Much -- more -- most (quantity)

Many -- more -- most (number)

Late -- later, latter -- latest, last

Old -- older, elder -- oldest, eldest

Far -- farther -- farthest

(Nigh) -- (nigher) -- (nighest), next

(Fore) -- (former) -- foremost, first

(Fore) -- further -- furthest

(In) -- inner -- inmost, innermost

(Up) -- upper -- upmost, uppermost

(Out) -- outer, (utter) -- utmost, uttermost