



ADJECTIVES:



There are eight parts of speech. Two of these parts of speech, *adjectives* and *adverbs*, are called modifiers because they modify the meaning of other words to make them more precise, and more colorful.

An adjective is a word that modifies a noun or a pronoun. An adjective answers the questions; What kind? Which one? How many? or How much?

Examples: Adjectives are in bold print.

What kind? **Hairy** Bear **Scary** Bear **Heavy** rainfall

Which one? **These** tomatoes **That** bear

How many? **One** Big ugly bear **Three** weeks

How much? **Little** time **Much** patience

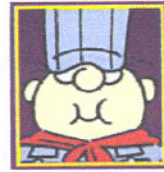
Notice that more than one adjective can modify the same noun or pronoun as in:

One big ugly bear

Also note that **a**, **an**, and **the**, are a special group of adjectives called articles.



ADVERBS



Adverbs are another kind of modifier. Adverbs also make your writing more precise. Most adverbs modify verbs. In order to find the adverb, first find each verb, and then ask yourself, *Where? When? How? or To what extent?* about each one. The answers to these questions will be the adverb. Adverbs can appear anywhere in the sentence.

Where? The old fence fell down.

When? Then the phone rang.

How? The class ended abruptly.

To what extent? Bobby almost passed the quiz.

Other examples:

Johnny painted sloppily.

Soon the heavy rains will begin again. (verb phrase is "will begin")

I have not met my track coach. (verb phrase is "have met")

Adverbs sometimes modify an adjective or another adverb.

Adjective example: Barry's compliments were truly sincere.
(*Sincere* is an adjective. **Truly** tells how sincere Barry's compliments were.)

Adverb example: John finished his homework very quickly
(**Quickly** is an adverb. **Very** is an adverb that modifies "quickly," and tells *how* quickly John finished.)