

MODIFYING MODIFIERS

Chapter 1, Section 2
Inside English

Review: Start with a Basic Sentence

Subject + Verb

Subject + Verb (and all the variations we've discussed so far), including sentences that contain...

- Main verbs
- Helping verbs
- “Hidden” subjects
- Compound Subjects
- Compound verbs
- Inverted Subjects
- Verbs that look like verbs but aren't....

FOR EXAMPLE

- ◉ Jill runs.
- ◉ Jill has run.
- ◉ (You) Stop!
- ◉ Jill and Jane run.
- ◉ Jill runs and lifts weights.
- ◉ Does Jill run?
- ◉ Jill enjoys running.

Of course, there's more to a sentence than just a SUBJECT AND A VERB

It's time to consider the modifiers...

Modifiers

words that **describe, limit, intensify,**
or otherwise **enhance** the meaning
of a subject or a verb.

There are two types of modifiers

🕒 Adjectives

Words that modify—

NOUNS

The happy cat plays
with a **red flower**.

PRONOUNS

She is **happy**.

🕒 Adverbs

Words that modify—

VERBS

She **plays well**.

ADJECTIVES

She is **really** happy.

OTHER ADVERBS

She plays **unusually** well.

KEEP IN MIND THE BASIC PRINCIPLE

All modifiers modify something.

Your job is to identify the specific word or words that is being modified.

ADJECTIVE MODIFIERS

- ◉ Descriptive Words

- ◉ Possessive Nouns and Pronouns

- ◉ I own a blue car.

- ◉ I parked my car next to John's motorcycle.
or

- ◉ I parked my car next to his motorcycle.

ADJECTIVE MODIFIERS

✧ Limiting Words and Numbers

✧ Nouns that Modify Other Nouns

○ Some people see three movies a week.

○ The basketball game was held in the neighborhood gym.

Start with a noun, then add
your adjective modifier

CAT

The **cute** cat.

The **silly** cat.

The **happy-go-lucky** cat.

The **long-haired** cat.

The cat **in the hat**.

The **purring** cat.

MODIFIERS CAN BE
MORE THAN ONE WORD!
PHRASES OR VERBALS

CAT

The happy-go-lucky cat.

Hyphenated phrase

The long-haired cat.

The cat in the hat.

Prepositional phrase

The purring cat.

participle

ADVERB MODIFIERS

◉ Adverbs

Words that modify—

VERBS

She **plays well**.

ADJECTIVES

She is extremely **happy**.

OTHER ADVERBS

She plays **unusually** well.

MODIFYING A VERB

PLAY

- Play happily
- Play quietly
- Play in the backyard (PP functions as adverb)
- Play yesterday
- Play for a long time (PP functions as adverb)
- Play aggressively

MODIFYING AN ADJECTIVE

PRETTY

Very pretty

Slightly pretty

Extremely pretty

Not so pretty

Unusually pretty

Pretty in pink (PP functioning as an adverb modifier)

MODIFYING ANOTHER ADVERB

WELL

Pretty well

Very well

Not so well

Unusually well

Incredibly well

I feel well in the morning but not in the evening. (PP functioning as adverb modifier)

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE FORMS OF MODIFIERS

COMPARATIVE (-ER)

SUPERLATIVE (-EST, MOST)

COMPARATIVE FORM COMPARES TWO PEOPLE/THINGS

Add **-er** to adjectives and adverbs of one syllable

Green  Greener

Add **more** to adjectives and adverbs of (two) or three or more syllables

Complicated  more complicated

SUPERLATIVE FORM COMPARES THREE OR MORE PEOPLE OR THINGS

Add **-est** to adjectives and adverbs of one syllable

Green  Greenest

Add **most** to adjectives and adverbs of (two) or three or more syllables

Complicated  most complicated

SPELLING REMINDER!

Don't forget to change "y" to "i" when adding suffixes.

Funny → funnier

Happy → happiest

Practice (use scratch paper)

Adjective/adverb	Comparative form	Superlative form
clear	<i>clearer</i>	<i>clearest</i>
silly		
joyful		
suddenly		
ugly		
comfortable		
far		
quickly		
powerful		

How'd you do?

Adjective/Adverb	Comparative Form	Superlative Form
clear	clearer	clearest
silly	sillier	silliest
joyful	More joyful	Most joyful
suddenly	More suddenly	Most suddenly
ugly	Uglier	Ugliest
comfortable	More comfortable	Most comfortable
far	farther	farthest
quickly	More quickly	Most quickly
powerful	More powerful	Most powerful

END SHOW



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