

# Adverbials



# Verbs

Verbs indicate that someone or something is  
**doing, feeling** or **being**.

The tide **creeps** up the sand.

The shadows **cross** the land.

The dew **dries** on the dock.

The green moss **spreads!**



Usually **verbs** have the name of a person or thing or a pronoun in front of them.

# Adverbials

**Adverbials** tell us more about a **verb**.

**Adverbials** can be

a word,

a phrase,

or a clause.

slowly

at a snail's pace

while the whole world slept



# Adverbials



**Adverbials** tell us more about a **verb**.

The snail **slid**.

The snail **slid with no hurry**.

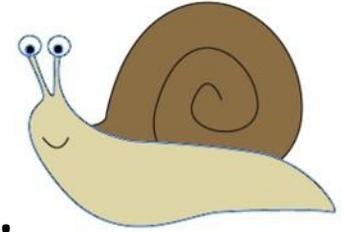
The snail **slid across the leaf**.

The snail **slid silently**.



In each sentence, the **verb** is modified by the **adverbial**.

## Adverbials



**Adverbials** can be in different places in a sentence.

The snail **slid**.

The snail **slid**.

The snail **slid with no hurry**.

**With no hurry**, the snail **slid**.

The snail **slid across the leaf**.

**Across the leaf**, the snail **slid**.

The snail **slid silently**.

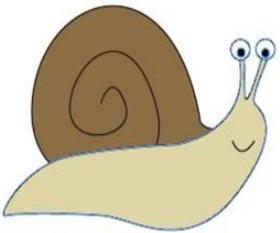
**Silently**, the snail **slid**.

When it is at the start of a sentence, the **adverbial** is called a **fronted adverbial**.

## Punctuating Fronted Adverbials

**Fronted adverbials** are separated from the main part of the sentence by a **comma**.

**With steady determination**, the snail slid.



Try saying the whole sentence  
with and without a pause.

The comma tells the listener that the main information is coming.  
This is great for building tension.



## Punctuating Fronted Adverbials



*Spot the **fronted adverbial** in each sentence.  
Decide where the **comma** should go.*

**In the brown water,** a fish lay quietly dozing.

**High in the blue above,** birds were singing.

**At the edge of the tide,** the waves broke.

**Whenever the moon and stars are set,** the badgers venture out.

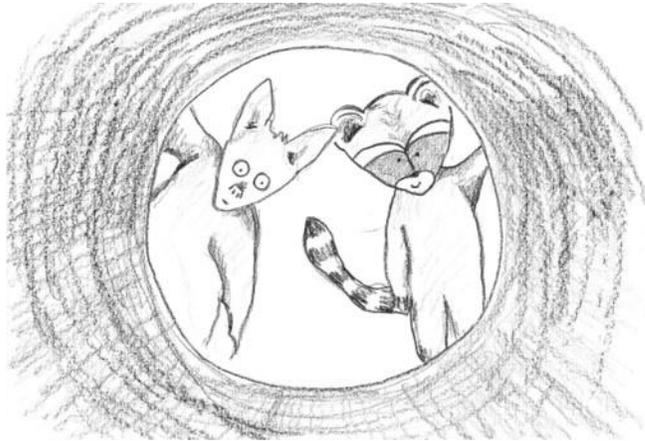
**Whenever the wind is high,** the leaves rattle and fall.



# Adverbials



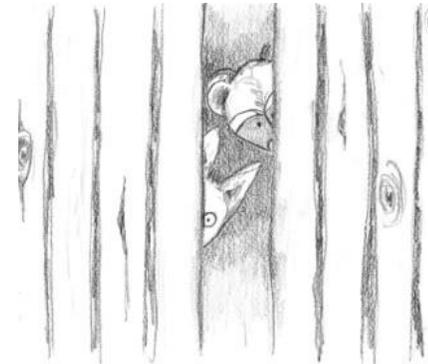
**Adverbials** answer the questions...



**Where?**

**When?**

**How?**





## Adverbials

Where?

The sun **sheds** its light.

**From high in the sky,** the sun **sheds** its light.

**Over the cold earth,** the sun **sheds** its light.

**Into the darkness,** the sun **sheds** its light.

**Adverbials** can answer the question: *Where?*





## Adverbials

When?

The sun **shed** its light.

**When the world was cold**, the sun **shed** its light.

**Before the snow melted**, the sun **shed** its light.

**Right at that moment**, the sun **shed** its light.

**Adverbials** can answer the question: *When?*





## Adverbials

How?

The sun **shed** its light.

**Brightly**, the sun **shed** its light.

**With warmth and colour**, the sun **shed** its light.

**Like an old friend returning**, the sun **shed** its light.



**Adverbials** can answer the question: *How?*



## Adverbials

Adverbials often open with a **preposition**.

**With a ghostly appearance, the moon rose.**

**Through the cold air, the moon rose.**

**In the winter sky, the moon rose.**



Thinking of a **preposition** can help you to think of an **adverbial**.