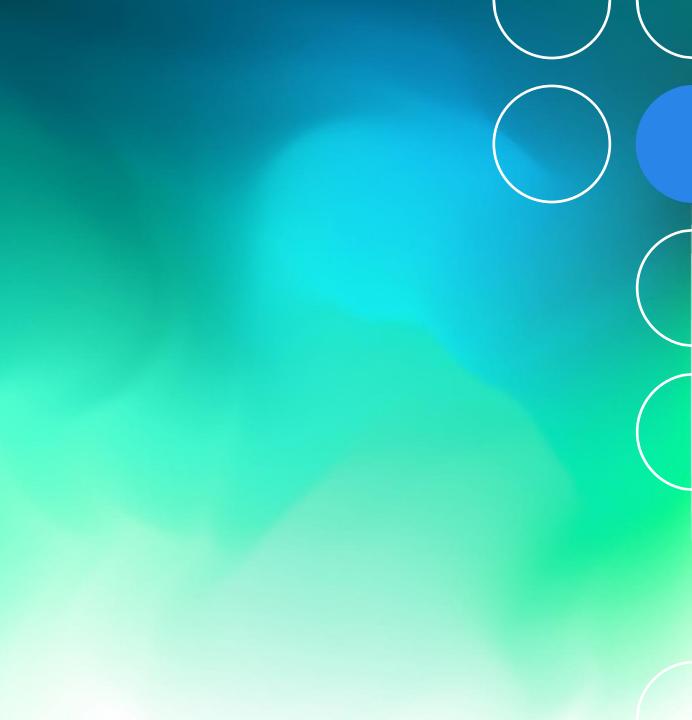
Adjectives & Adverbs



Vocabulary

- CON: with or together
- ANTI: against
- MEM: remember
- CIRCUM: around
- VINC / VICT: conquer
- INTER: between / among
- ANTE: before

1. <u>congregate</u> : v. to gather with others in one place
2. consolidate: v. to unite into one whole; combine
3. antibiotic: n. a drug capable of killing germs inside the body
4. <u>antiaircraft</u> : adj. used against hostile planes
5. <u>antidote</u> : n. a remedy to counteract a poison
6. memoirs: n. a record of something to be remembered
7. memorable: adj. worth remembering; noteworthy
8. commemorate: v. to observe; to recall to memory
9. memorabilia: n. objects and things remembered and collected
10. circumference: n. the permitted of a circle
11. <u>circumvent</u> : v. to go around or bypass
12. <u>circumspect</u> : adj. watchful; cautious
13. invincible : adj. cannot be defeated; unstoppable
14. <u>evict</u> : v. to put a person from a property by legal process
15. intercept: v. to take something on the way from one place to another
16. <u>interstate</u> : adj. crossing state lines
17. interim: n. the time between one thing and another (as in "in the interim")
18. <u>interdict</u> : v. to forbid
19. <u>antecede</u> : v. to go before in time

20. antebellum: adj. before the war (especially the Civil War)

Introduction to Adjectives

An **adjective** modifies a <u>noun</u> or a <u>pronoun</u> by describing, identifying, or quantifying words. An adjective usually precedes the noun or the pronoun which it modifies.

In the following examples, the **highlighted** words are adjectives:

 The truck-shaped balloon floated over the treetops. Mrs. Morrison papered her kitchen walls with hideous wallpaper. The small boat foundered on the wine-dark sea. The coal mines are dark and dank. Many stores have already begun to play irritating Christmas music. A battered music box sat on the mahogany sideboard. The back room was filed with large, yellow rain boots.

An adjective can be modified by an <u>adverb</u>, or by a phrase or clause functioning as an adverb. In the sentence

My husband knits intricately patterned mittens.

For example, the adverb ``intricately" modifies the adjective ``patterned."

Some nouns, many pronouns, and many <u>participle phrases</u> can also act as adjectives. In the sentence

• Eleanor listened to the **muffled** sounds of the radio **hidden** under her pillow.

For example, both highlighted adjectives are past participles.

Grammarians also consider **articles** (``the," ``a," ``an") to be adjectives.



Possessive Adjectives

A **possessive adjective** (``my," ``your," ``his," ``her," ``its," ``our," ``their") is similar or identical to a <u>possessive pronoun;</u> however, it is used as an adjective and modifies a noun or a <u>noun phrase</u>, as in the following sentences:

• I can't complete **my** assignment because I don't have the textbook.

In this sentence, the possessive adjective ``my" modifies ``assignment" and the noun phrase ``my assignment" functions as an <u>object</u>. Note that the possessive pronoun form ``mine" is not used to modify a noun or noun phrase.

• What is your phone number?

Here the possessive adjective ``your" is used to modify the noun phrase ``phone number"; the entire noun phrase ``your phone number" is a <u>subject complement</u>. Note that the possessive pronoun form ``yours" is not used to modify a noun or a noun phrase.

• The bakery sold his favorite type of bread.

In this example, the possessive adjective ``his" modifies the noun phrase ``favorite type of bread" and the entire noun phrase ``his favorite type of bread" is the <u>direct object</u> of the verb ``sold."

• After many years, she returned to her homeland.

Here the possessive adjective ``her" modifies the noun ``homeland" and the noun phrase ``her homeland" is the object of the preposition ``to." Note also that the form ``hers" is not used to modify nouns or noun phrases.

We have lost our way in this wood.

In this sentence, the possessive adjective ``our" modifies ``way" and the noun phrase ``our way" is the direct object of the <u>compound verb</u> ``have lost". Note that the possessive pronoun form ``ours" is not used to modify nouns or noun phrases.

In many fairy tales, children are neglected by their parents.

Here, the possessive adjective ``their" modifies ``parents", and the noun phrase ``their parents" is the object of the preposition ``by." Note that the possessive pronoun form ``theirs" is not used to modify nouns or noun phrases.

The cat chased its ball down the stairs and into the backyard.

In this sentence, the possessive adjective ``its" modifies ``ball" and the noun phrase ``its ball" is the object of the verb ``chased." Note that ``its" is the possessive adjective and ``it's" is a <u>contraction</u> for ``it is."

THE POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

SINGULAR		PLURAL	
Personal Pronouns	Possesive Adjectives	Personal Pronouns	Possesive Adjectives
ı —→	MY	we>	OUR
YOU →	YOU	YOU>	YOUR
не>	HIS		THEIR
SHE>	HER		
п →	ITS		

Demonstrative Adjectives

The **demonstrative adjectives** ``this," ``these," ``that," ``those," and ``what" are identical to the <u>demonstrative pronouns</u>, but are used as adjectives to modify nouns or noun phrases, as in the following sentences:

• When the librarian tripped over that cord, she dropped a pile of books.

In this sentence, the demonstrative adjective ``that'' modifies the noun ``cord'' and the noun phrase ``that cord'' is the object of the preposition ``over.''

• This apartment needs to be fumigated.

Here ``this" modifies ``apartment" and the noun phrase ``this apartment" is the subject of the sentence.

• Even though my friend preferred those plates, I bought these.

In the <u>subordinate clause</u>, ``those" modifies ``plates" and the noun phrase ``those plates" is the object of the verb ``preferred." In the <u>independent clause</u>, ``these" is the direct object of the verb ``bought."

Note that the relationship between a demonstrative adjective and a demonstrative pronoun is similar to the relationship between a possessive adjective and a possessive pronoun, or to that between an interrogative adjective and an <u>interrogative pronoun</u>.

Demonstrative Adjectives

This (singular and near) That (singular and far) These (plural and near) Those (plural and far)

Interrogative Adjectives

An **interrogative adjective** (``which" or ``what") is like an interrogative pronoun, except that it modifies a noun or noun phrase rather than standing on its own (see also demonstrative adjectives and possessive adjectives):

• Which plants should be watered twice a week?

Like other adjectives, ``which" can be used to modify a noun or a noun phrase. In this example, ``which" modifies ``plants" and the noun phrase ``which paints" is the subject of the compound verb ``should be watered":

• What book are you reading?

In this sentence, ``what" modifies ``book" and the noun phrase ``what book" is the direct object of the compound verb ``are reading."

Indefinite Adjectives

An **indefinite adjective** is similar to an indefinite pronoun, except that it modifies a noun, pronoun, or noun phrase, as in the following sentences:

• Many people believe that corporations are under-taxed.

The indefinite adjective ``many" modifies the noun ``people" and the noun phrase ``many people" is the subject of the sentence.

• I will send you any mail that arrives after you have moved to Sudbury.

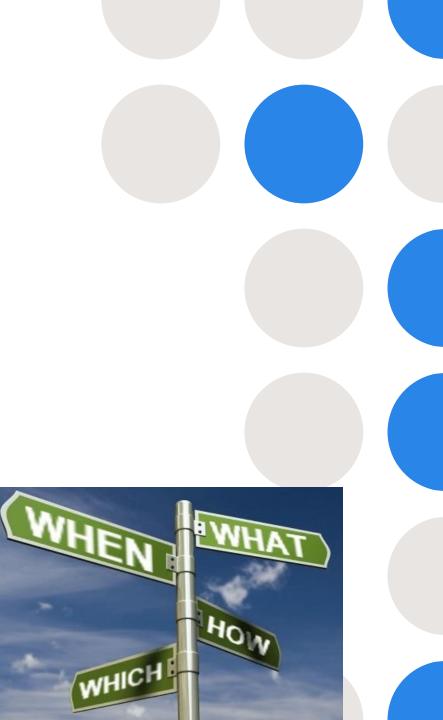
The indefinite adjective ``any" modifies the noun ``mail" and the noun phrase ``any mail" is the direct object of the compound verb ``will send."

• They found a few goldfish floating belly up in the swan pond.

In this example the indefinite adjective modifies the noun ``goldfish" and the noun phrase is the direct object of the verb ``found":

• The title of Kelly's favorite game is ``All dogs go to heaven."

Here the indefinite pronoun ``all" modifies ``dogs" and the full title is a subject complement.



Adverb

An **adverb** can modify a verb, an adjective, another adverb, a phrase, or a clause. An adverb indicates manner, time, place, cause, or degree and answers questions such as "how," "when," "where," "how much".

While some adverbs can be identified by their characteristic "ly" suffix, most of them must be identified by untangling the grammatical relationships within the sentence or clause as a whole. Unlike an adjective, an adverb can be found in various places within the sentence.

In the following examples, each of the **highlighted** words is an adverb:

The seamstress quickly made the mourning clothes.

In this sentence, the adverb "quickly" modifies the verb "made" and indicates in what manner (or how fast) the clothing was constructed.

• The midwives waited patiently through a long labour.

Similarly in this sentence, the adverb "patiently" modifies the verb "waited" and describes the manner in which the midwives waited.

• The **boldly**-spoken words would return to haunt the rebel.

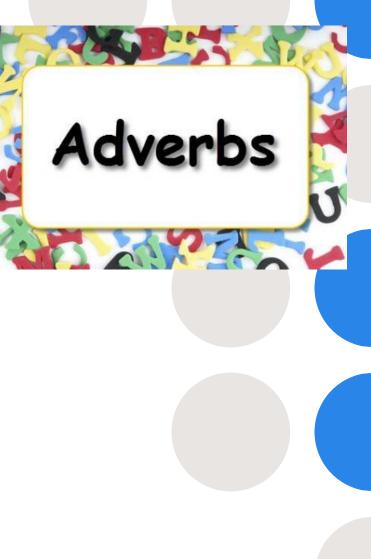
In this sentence, the adverb "boldly" modifies the adjective "spoken."

• We urged him to dial the number more **expeditiously**.

Here the adverb "more" modifies the adverb "expeditiously."

• Unfortunately, the bank closed at three today.

In this example, the adverb "unfortunately" modifies the entire sentence.



Words that Modify : Adverbs

Definition

- · Adverbs are words that modify
- a verb (He drove slowly. How did he drive?)
- an adjective (He drove a very fast car. How fast was his car?)
- another adverb (She moved quite slowly down the aisle. How slowly did she move?)

As we will see, adverbs often tell when, where, why, or under what conditions something happens or happened. Adverbs frequently end in -ly; however, many words and phrases not ending in -ly serve an adverbial function and an -ly ending is not a guarantee that a word is an adverb. The words lovely, lonely, motherly, friendly, neighborly, for instance, are adjectives:

• That lovely woman lives in a friendly neighborhood.

If a group of words containing a subject and verb acts as an adverb (modifying the verb of a sentence), it is called an **Adverb Clause:**

• When this class is over, we're going to the movies.

When a group of words that do not contain a subject and verb acts as an adverb, it is called an <u>adverbial</u> <u>phrase</u>. <u>Prepositional phrases</u> frequently have adverbial functions (telling place and time, modifying the verb):

- He went to the movies.
- She works on holidays.
- They lived in Canada during the war.

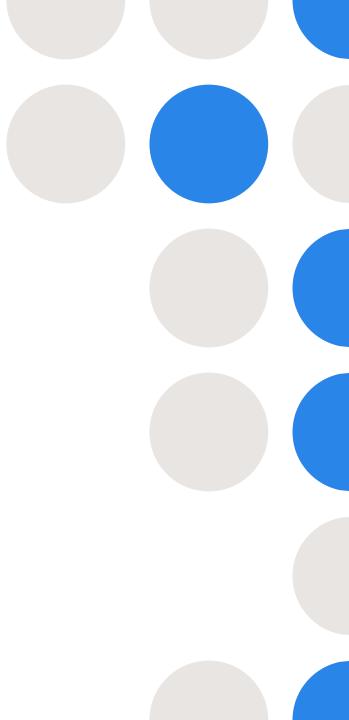
Conjunctive Adverbs

You can use a **conjunctive adverb** to join two clauses together. Some of the most common conjunctive adverbs are "also," "consequently," "finally," "furthermore," "hence," "however," "incidentally," "indeed," "instead," "likewise," "meanwhile," "nevertheless," "next," "nonetheless," "otherwise," "still," "then," "therefore," and "thus." A conjunctive adverb is not strong enough to join two <u>independent clauses</u> without the aid of a <u>semicolon</u>.

The highlighted words in the following sentences are conjunctive adverbs:

- The government has cut university budgets; consequently, class sizes have been increased.
- He did not have all the ingredients the recipe called for; **therefore**, he decided to make something else.
- The report recommended several changes to the ways the corporation accounted for donations; **furthermore**, it suggested that a new auditor be appointed immediately.
- The crowd waited patiently for three hours; **finally**, the doors to the stadium were opened.
- Batman and Robin fruitlessly searched the building; **indeed**, the Joker had escaped through a secret door in the basement.

accordingly	however	likewise	on the other hand
also	indeed	meanwhile	on the contrary
as a result	instead	moreover	still
consequently	in addition	nevertheless	therefore
for example	in fact	otherwise	thus
furthermore	in other words		



Infinitive Phrases

And Infinitive phrases can act as adverbs (usually telling why):

•She hurried to the mainland <u>to see her brother</u>. •The senator ran <u>to catch the bus</u>.

But there are other kinds of adverbial phrases: •He calls his mother <u>as often as possible.</u>

Adverbs can modify <u>adjectives</u>, but an adjective cannot modify an adverb. Thus we would say that "the students showed a <u>really</u> wonderful attitude" and that "the students showed a <u>wonderfully</u> casual attitude" and that "my professor is <u>really</u> tall, but <u>not</u> "He ran real fast."

INFINITIVE PHRASE

Like adjectives, adverbs can have comparative and superlative forms to show degree.

- •Walk faster if you want to keep up with me.
- •The student who reads fastest will finish first.
- We often use more and most, less and least to show degree with adverbs:
- •With sneakers on, she could move more quickly among the patients.
- •The flowers were the most beautifully arranged creations I've ever seen.
- •She worked less confidently after her accident.
- •That was the least skillfully done performance I've seen in years.

The <u>as</u>, <u>as</u> construction can be used to create adverbs that express sameness or equality: "He can't run as fast as his sister."

A handful of adverbs have two forms, one that ends in -ly and one that doesn't. In certain cases, the two forms have different meanings:

•He arrived late.

•Lately, he couldn't seem to be on time for anything.

In most cases, however, the form without the -ly ending should be reserved for casual situations:
She certainly drives <u>slow</u> in that old Buick of hers.
He did <u>wrong</u> by her.
He spoke <u>sharp</u>, quick, and to the point.

Intensifiers

Adverbs often function as **intensifiers**, conveying a greater or lesser emphasis to something. Intensifiers are said to have three different functions: they can emphasize, amplify, or downtone. Here are some examples:

Emphasizers:

- I really don't believe him.
- He literally wrecked his mother's car.
- She simply ignored me.
- They're going to be late, for sure.

Amplifiers:

- The teacher <u>completely</u> rejected her proposal.
- I <u>absolutely</u> refuse to attend any more faculty meetings.
- They heartily endorsed the new restaurant.
- I so wanted to go with them.
- We know this city well.

Downtoners:

- I kind of like this college.
- Joe sort of felt betrayed by his sister.
- His mother mildly disapproved his actions.
- We can improve on this to some extent.
- The boss <u>almost</u> quit after that.
- The school was <u>all but</u> ruined by the storm.

Adverbs (as well as adjectives) in their various degrees can be accompanied by premodifiers:

- She runs very fast.
- We're going to run out of material <u>all the</u> faster



Kinds of Adverbs

Adverbs of Manner

• She moved <u>slowly</u> and spoke <u>quietly</u>.

Adverbs of Place

• She has lived <u>on the island</u> all her life. She still lives <u>there</u> now.

Adverbs of Frequency

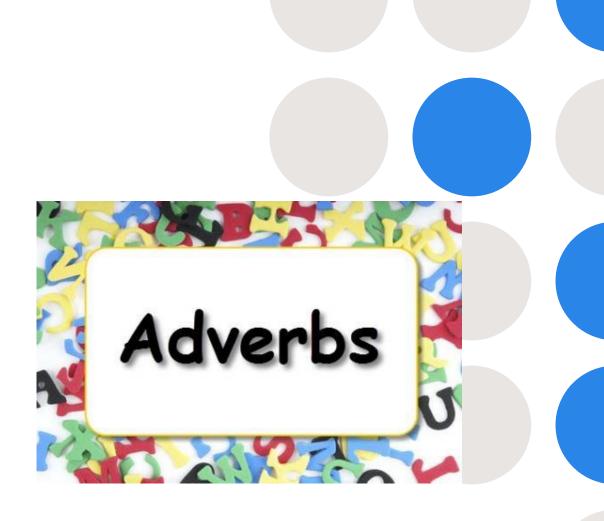
She takes the boat to the mainland <u>every day</u>.
 She <u>often</u> goes by herself.

Adverbs of Time

 She tries to get back <u>before dark.</u> It's starting to get dark <u>now</u>. She finished her tea <u>first</u>. She left <u>early</u>.

Adverbs of Purpose

• She drives her boat slowly to <u>avoid hitting the rocks</u>. She shops in several stores <u>to get the best buys</u>.



Positions of Adverbs

One of the hallmarks of adverbs is their ability to move around in a sentence. Adverbs of manner are particularly flexible in this regard.

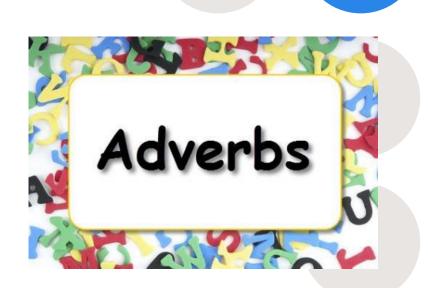
- <u>Solemnly</u> the minister addressed her congregation.
- The minister solemnly addressed her congregation.
- The minister addressed her congregation solemnly.

The following adverbs of frequency appear at various points in these sentences:

- Before the main verb: I <u>never</u> get up before nine o'clock.
- Between the auxiliary verb and the main verb: I have <u>rarely</u> written to my brother without a good reason.
- Before the verb used to: I always used to see him at his summer home.

Indefinite adverbs of time can appear either before the verb or between the auxiliary and the main verb:

- He <u>finally</u> showed up for batting practice.
- She has recently retired.



Misplaced Modifiers

Review the section on **Misplaced Modifiers** for some additional ideas on placement. Modifiers can sometimes attach themselves to and thus modify words that they ought not to modify.

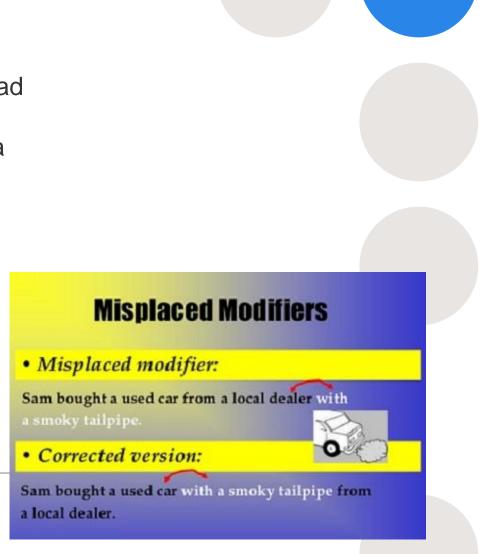
 They reported that Giuseppe Balle, a European rock star, had died on the six o'clock news.

Clearly, it would be better to move the underlined modifier to a position immediately after "they reported" or even to the beginning of the sentence, so the poor man doesn't die on television.

Misplacement can also occur with very simple modifiers, such as only and barely:

• She only grew to be four feet tall.

It would be better if "She grew to be only four feet tall."



Adjuncts, Disjuncts, & Conjuncts

Regardless of its position, an adverb is <u>often neatly</u> integrated into the flow of a sentence. When this is true, as it <u>almost always</u> is, the adverb is called an adjunct. (Notice the underlined adjuncts or adjunctive adverbs in the first two sentences of this paragraph.) When the adverb does not fit into the flow of the clause, it is called a disjunct or a conjunct and is often set off by a comma or set of commas. A disjunct frequently acts as a kind of evaluation of the rest of the sentence. Although it usually modifies the verb, we could say that it modifies the entire clause, too. Notice how "too" is a disjunct in the sentence immediately before this one; that same word can also serve as an adjunct adverbial modifier: It's <u>too hot</u> to play outside. Here are two more disjunctive adverbs:

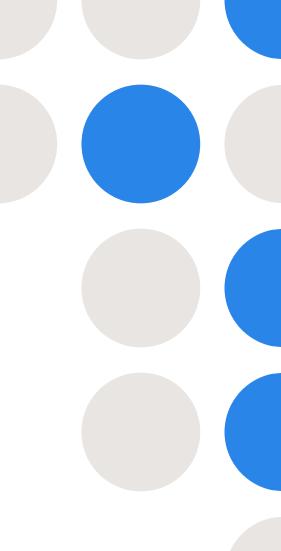
- Frankly, Martha, I don't give a hoot.
- Fortunately, no one was hurt.

Conjuncts, on the other hand, serve a connector function within the flow of the text, signaling a transition between ideas.

- If they start smoking those awful cigars, then I'm not staying.
- We've told the landlord about this ceiling again and again, and <u>yet</u> he's done nothing to fix it.

At the extreme edge of this category, we have the purely conjunctive device known as the conjunctive adverb (often called the adverbial conjunction):

- Jose has spent years preparing for this event; <u>nevertheless</u>, he's the most nervous person here.
- I love this school; however, I don't think I can afford the tuition.



Some Special Cases

The adverbs enough and not enough usually take a postmodifier position:

- Is that music loud enough?
- These shoes are not big enough.
- In a roomful of elderly people, you must remember to speak loudly enough.

(Notice, though, that when enough functions as an adjective, it can come before the noun:

• Did she give us enough time?

The adverb enough is often followed by an infinitive:

• She didn't run fast enough to win.

The adverb too comes before adjectives and other adverbs:

- She ran too fast.
- She works too quickly.

If too comes after the adverb it is probably a disjunct (meaning also) and is usually set off with a comma:

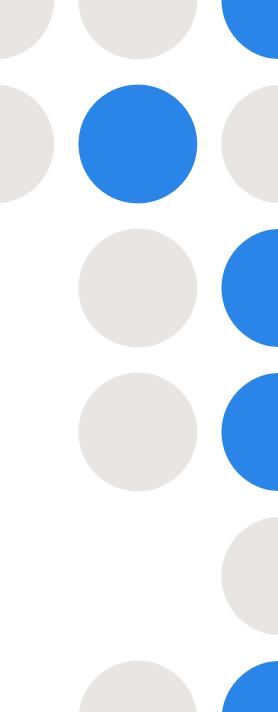
• Yasmin works hard. She works quickly, too.

The adverb too is often followed by an infinitive:

• She runs too slowly to enter this race.

Another common construction with the adverb too is too followed by a prepositional phrase " for + the object of the preposition " followed by an infinitive:

This milk is too hot for a baby to drink.



Relative Adverbs

Adjectival clauses are sometimes introduced by what is called relative adverbs: where, when, and why. Although the entire clause is adjectival and will modify a noun, the relative word itself fulfills an adverbial function (modifying a verb within its own clause).

The relative adverb where will begin a clause that modifies a noun of place:

• My entire family now worships in the <u>church</u> where my great grandfather used to be minister.

The relative pronoun "where" modifies the verb "used to be" (which makes it adverbial), but the entire clause ("where my great grandfather used to be minister") modifies the word "church."

A when clause will modify nouns of time:

• My favorite month is always <u>February</u> when we celebrate Valentine's Day and Presidents' Day.

And a why clause will modify the noun reason:

Do you know the <u>reason</u> why Isabel isn't in class today?

We sometimes leave out the relative adverb in such clauses, and many writers prefer "that" to "why" in a clause referring to "reason":

- Do you know the reason why Isabel isn't in class today?
- I always look forward to the day when we begin our summer vacation.
- I know the reason that men like motorcycles.