

STUDY ENGLISH

IELTS PREPARATION

TRANSCRIPT

EPISODE 24: NEW TRAINING

Hello. I'm Margot Politis. Welcome to Study English, IELTS preparation.

Today we're going to talk about *adverbs*.

Adverbs are useful because they give us more information about an action, event or situation. If I said they were 'very' useful, that would be an example of using the adverb 'very' to add to or modify the word 'useful'

But first, let's listen to our story about a new training program, to help fix the problem of there not being enough skilled workers in Australia.



For too long, we didn't train enough people. We didn't put enough energy into getting people into apprenticeships and traineeships. We just let market forces, laissez-faire approach, dominate, and it didn't work.

We've established a school apprenticeship link program, which this year will have 500 young Western Australians, predominantly, but not totally, boys, providing them with apprenticeships basically that they can take up in the mining and other industries.

Fortunately, I don't think it has been left too late, so long as we very proactively tackle the situation now and don't delay any longer.

OK. Let's look more closely at *adverbs*.

Adverbs work by modifying words. Adverbs modify *verbs*, *adjectives*, other *adverbs* or *preposition phrases*.



Using adverbs correctly will improve your communication skills.

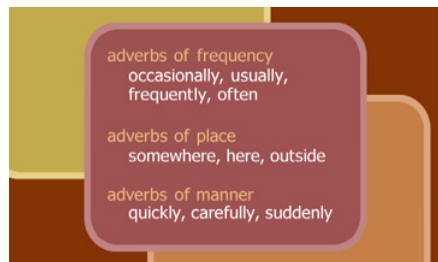
They answer such questions as 'how?' 'how often?' 'when?' 'where?' and 'why?'.

Because they have different functions, it's useful to describe adverbs according to categories.

Here are some of the categories that adverbs can be divided into:

adverbs of frequency - occasionally, usually, frequently, often;

adverbs of place - somewhere, here, outside;





STUDY ENGLISH

IELTS PREPARATION

adverbs of manner - quickly, carefully, suddenly;

adverbs of degree - really, fairly, very, rather, extremely;

and finally *focusing adverbs* - specifically, only, particularly.

Did you notice that most of these adverbs end in the suffix '-ly'? Many adverbs are formed by adding '-ly' to an adjective. For example:

frequent + ly – frequently

careful + ly – carefully

quick + ly – quickly

real + ly - really

Let's listen to Alan Carpenter, a State Government minister, talking about an apprenticeship program. He uses a number of '-ly' adverbs. Can you identify the category they belong to?

We've established a school apprenticeship link program, which this year will have 500 young Western Australians, predominantly, but not totally, boys, providing them with apprenticeships basically that they can take up in the mining and other industries.

Alan uses the adverbs 'predominantly' and 'totally'.

These are 'degree expressions'. They're *adverbs of degree*.

Adverbs of degree can answer questions such as 'to what extent' or 'to what degree'. They also function as *modifiers* of adjectives and adverbs.

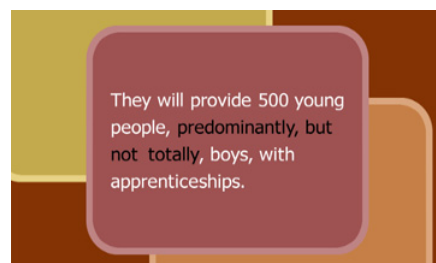
Look at this sentence:

"They will provide 500 young people, predominantly, but not totally, boys, with apprenticeships."

'predominantly, but not totally'

They answer the question: "To what extent will the apprenticeships be offered to boys?"

'predominantly, but not totally'



STUDY ENGLISH

IELTS PREPARATION

Let's listen to Dave Smith, head of the National Skills Shortages Task Force, talking about recruitments. He also uses a number of adverbs. Can you identify their category?

Fortunately, I don't think it has been left too late, so long as we very proactively tackle the situation now and don't delay any longer.

He says: "So long as we very proactively tackle the situation".

'Proactively' is an *adverb of manner*, which expresses how something happens or how something is done.

In the sentence: "We must very proactively tackle the situation", 'proactively' modifies the verb 'tackle', saying how the situation should be tackled.

Next to 'proactively' we have another adverb, 'very'. We saw this category of adverb earlier. It is an *adverb of degree*.

Some *adverbs of degree*, however, can be further divided into *intensifiers* and *downtoners*.

Adverbs that are *intensifiers* make adjectives stronger, and *downtoners* make adjectives weaker.

In the sentence "We must very proactively tackle the situation", the manner in which the situation is tackled is made stronger by adding the intensifier 'very'.

"How proactively? Very proactively."

Fortunately, I don't think it has been left too late, so long as we very proactively tackle the situation now and don't delay any longer.

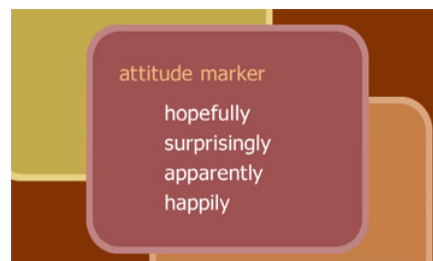
He also says: "Fortunately, I don't think it's been left too late".

'Fortunately' is an adverb in another category. We call it an *attitude marker*.

The adverb 'fortunately' expresses a viewpoint on a situation, and usually refers to the whole clause.

Examples of other attitude markers include: 'hopefully', 'surprisingly', 'apparently' and 'happily'.

OK. Now let's consider how many words and phrases used in English are borrowed from other languages.



Some are pronounced as if they were English, for example 'questionnaire' and 'restaurant' are from French, but pronounced in an English way.

STUDY ENGLISH

IELTS PREPARATION

However, other words reflect the spelling and pronunciation of the original language – like ‘détente’, and ‘ballet’.

English borrows words easily. These words fill gaps in our language. Most of the vocabulary in English for ballet, for example, derives from French.

Let’s listen to Alan Carpenter talking. Can you identify the foreign word and the language from which it was borrowed?

We didn’t put enough energy into getting people into apprenticeships and traineeships. We just let market forces, laissez-faire approach, dominate, and it didn’t work.

He uses the phrase ‘laissez-faire’.

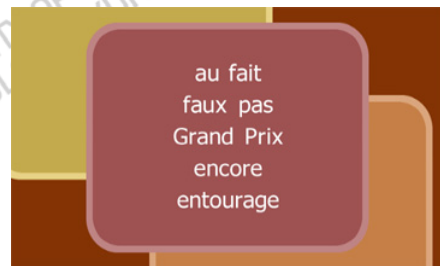
‘Laissez-faire’ is a borrowing from French.

It closely reflects the pronunciation of the original language, and the original spelling.

Do you know the meaning of the phrase?

Generally, it means non-interference or not getting involved, allowing things to act of their own accord.

Here are some other French words that are commonly used in English: ‘au fait’, ‘faux pas’, ‘Grand Prix’, ‘encore’ and ‘entourage’ – and you can look them up in the dictionary.



OK. So today we’ve looked at *adverbs*, and then talked about *words borrowed* from other languages into English.

To find more on today’s story, and lots of other help and information, you can go to our website at abcasiapacific.com/studyenglish. I’ll see you next time for more. Bye bye.