Continuation of The Second Semester Grammar Programme L1

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Adverbs of Degree

Prepositions of Place and Time

Coordinators, Conjunctions and Connectors

1. Adverbs of degree: very, quite, rather, too and enough

An adverb of degree makes the meaning weaker or stronger.

**A little** late, **slightly** complicated, **fairly** unusual, **pretty** good, **really** ill, **extremely** cold, **completely** mad etc.

An adverb of degree goes before an adjective (e.g. cold) or an adverb (e.g. quickly).

1. *Adverb + adjective*

It’s **very cold** today.

Rita looked **rather upset.**

This dress is **absolutely marvellous.**

1. *Adverb + adverb*

The time passed **quite quickly.**

We go on holiday **fairly soon.**

United played **extremely well.**

As for *quite and rather,* when we make a favourable comment, we usually say **quite** not **rather.**

The book was **quite interesting.**

It’s **quite warm** today.

It was **quite nice** walking through the park.

In unfavourable comments, we usually say **rather** but **quite** is possible**.**

The book was **rather boring/** quite boring.

It was **rather awkward/** quite awkwardtaking the suitcase on the underground.

**Rather** in favourable comments means ‘to a surprising or unusual degree’.

It’s **rather warm** for October.

I didn’t know David can cook. He’s **rather good** at it.

*Too and enough*

**Too** goes before an adjective or adverb.

Claire doesn’t want to marry Henry. She thinks he’s **too old.**

Zedco are in trouble. The company reacted **too slowly** to the rise inprices.

**Enough** goes afteran adjective or adverb.

The water isn’t **hot enough.** It needs to be boiling.

You didn’t put the screws in **tightly enough**.

**Practice**

1. **Put the words in the right order to form a statement.**

I / love / really/ these trousers.

Is / rather/ silly / this game.

Already / I’ve / paid / the bill.

Easily / Jonathan/ passed / the test.

Didn’t / enough/ sell / they / tickets.

1. **Write a second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the word in brackets.**

It’s probable that the strike will be over soon. (probably)

The strike will probably be over soon.

1. We often go to the cinema. ( a lot)

……………………………………………

1. Adrian wears jeans all the time. (always)

………………………………………………

1. These shoes are too small. (big)

……………………………………………..

1. I don’t live in Birmingham anymore. ( no)

………………………………………………..

1. Polly spent more money than she should have done in the sales. (too)

……………………………………………………………………….

2) Prepositions of Place and Time

1. Prepositions of place are prepositions that help us understand where something is:

* The man is **on** the skateboard.
* He is putting plates **on** the table.
* The man **under** the table.
* The eggs are **in** the pot.
* The coffee is **in** the mug.

*Next, between, on the left, on the right, in the centre, on top of, off, on the bottom, opposite, behind, in front of, on, in, at, out, above, below, etc.*

1. Prepositions of time are prepositions that help us understand when something happens.

*on, in, at.*

**In** 1988, **in** winter, **in** the morning, **in** the Easter holiday, **on** Saturday, **on** Christmas day, **on** Friday morning, **at** three o’clock, **at** lunch time, **at** the moment, **at** the week-end.

Uses of prepositions with ***night***

* I woke **in** the night. ( in the middle of the night)
* It happened **on** Monday night.
* I can’t sleep **at night.** (when it is night)

But we do not use **in**, **on**, or **at** before **every**, **last**, **next**, **this**, **tomorrow** and **yesterday**.

* We go to Greece **every summer.**
* I’ll see you **next Friday.**
* My brother came home **last Christmas.**
* The party is **tomorrow evening.**

**Practice**

Read Polly’s post card and write the missing words. Use one word only in the space, sometimes more than one answer is correct.

This is our first holiday for ages, and I’m enjoying it tremendously. I love being ………an island. We arrived here almost a week…….. and I can’t believe the time is going so fast. We finally completed the journey here ………..Friday evening……. about eleven o’clock. The journey wasn’t too bad, but we had to wait for ages………..the airport for our flight.

Our apartment here is fine. It’s…….. the top floor. The beach isn’t far away-we can walk there………five minutes. The only problem is that we have to get ……a busy main road, which can be difficult.

We don’t do much…….the day, but we go out every evening. Last night’s disco went on very late, and today we slept……eleven.

1. Coordinators, Conjunctions and Connectors (linking words)

**Coordinators** (coordinating conjunctions). FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

None of the FANBOYS support fronting. They may only be placed between the two coordinated clauses, not before them.

*Examples*

* Karen wanted to leave early, **but** we wanted to stay.
* Karen wanted to leave, **yet** she stayed until the end.
* Karen didn’t complain, **nor** did she insist.
* Karen wanted to leave the theatre, **so** she called a taxi.

**Connectors** of: emphasis, comparison, contrast, addition, illustration, sequence, cause& effect, conclusion.

Emphasis: especially, also, indeed, above all, certainly, notably, of course, in particular, in addition, specifically etc.

Comparison: as….as, as if, otherwise, equally, in the same way, comparable alternatively, unless, by the way etc.

Contrast: but, however, on the other hand, otherwise, in spite of, unlike, while, yet, conversely etc.

Addition: as well as, further, furthermore, and then, and, too, also, in addition to, not only but also etc.

Illustration: such as, in this case, for one thing, as an example, an instance, illustrated by, in other words.

Sequence: first, then, next, as soon as, later, all in all, finally, besides, in the end etc.

Cause & effect: because, since, for, because of, due to, owing to, consequently, thus, as a result, as a consequence, therefore, etc.

Conclusion: to conclude, in conclusion, finally, on the whole, to sum up, summarizing etc.

**Subordinating Conjunctions**

Subordinating conjunctions are conjunctions that are used at the beginning of subordinate clauses. Some examples are: although, after, before, how, if, once, so that, when, unless in spite of, despite, whereas, while, on the other hand etc.

Examples

I’m no better **in spite of** the pills.

I’m no better, **although** I’ve taken the pills.

United are top of the league, **whereas** City are bottom.

Yesterday it was freezing cold, **while** today it’s quite warm.

There is, **on the other hand**, a lot of noise from the traffic.

**References**

Eastwood, J. (2006). Oxford Practice Grammar Intermediate. Oxford. Oxford University Press.

[**www.englishstudyhere.com**](http://www.englishstudyhere.com)

[**www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com**](http://www.English-Grammar-Revolution.com)