



Adverbs Basics: Adverb Formation: Adding -ly

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. She sings ____.
a) beautifully
b) beautiful
c) beautify
d) beauty
2. He drives very ____.
a) care
b) carefully
c) caring
d) careful
3. The baby slept ____ all night.
a) peaceful
b) loudly
c) peacefulness
d) peacefully
4. Please write your name ____.
a) clearly
b) clearer
c) clarity
d) clear
5. She speaks French ____.
a) fluency
b) fluent
c) fluenter
d) fluently
6. The dog barked ____ at the stranger.
a) angrily
b) softly
c) anger
d) angry
7. He ____ finished his homework before dinner.
a) slowly
b) quickly
c) quicken
d) quick
8. She danced ____ across the stage.
a) gracefully
b) grace
c) gracefulness
d) graceful
9. The students listened ____ to the teacher.
a) attentive
b) attentiveness
c) attentively
d) attention
10. He hurt his leg and walked ____.
a) painfully
b) pain
c) painful
d) cheerfully
11. The wind blew ____ through the trees.
a) gentle
b) gently
c) gentleness
d) gentler

12. She waited ____ for the bus in the rain.
a) patience
c) patiently
b) patient
d) patients
13. They explored the cave ____ in the dark.
a) caution
c) cautious
b) cautiously
d) cheerily
14. The cat crept ____ towards the bird.
a) loudly
c) silently
b) silent
d) silence
15. He polished the shoes ____ until they shone.
a) thorougher
c) thoroughness
b) thorough
d) thoroughly
16. My grandmother is a very ____ woman.
a) lovelily
c) lovingly
b) love
d) lovely
17. Don't worry — everything will be ____.
a) fineness
c) fine
b) finer
d) finely
18. Be careful — the road is very ____.
a) narrowly
c) narrow
b) narrowing
d) narrowness
19. He has a ____ dog that loves playing.
a) liveliness
c) livelily
b) lively
d) liven
20. That sounds ____! Let's do it.
a) excite
c) excitement
b) wonderfully
d) wonderful



Answers

1. a) beautifully
2. b) carefully
3. d) peacefully
4. a) clearly
5. d) fluently
6. a) angrily
7. b) quickly
8. a) gracefully
9. c) attentively
10. a) painfully
11. b) gently
12. c) patiently
13. b) cautiously
14. c) silently
15. d) thoroughly
16. d) lovely
17. c) fine
18. c) narrow
19. b) lively
20. d) wonderful



Explanations

1. “beautifully” (a)

Add -ly to the adjective 'beautiful' to form the adverb 'beautifully'. Adverbs describe how an action is done. 'Beautiful' is an adjective, 'beauty' is a noun, and 'beautify' is a verb.

2. “carefully” (b)

We need an adverb to describe how he drives. 'Carefully' is formed by adding -ly to 'careful'. 'Careful' is an adjective, 'caring' is a present participle/adjective, and 'care' is a noun or verb.

3. “peacefully” (d)

'Peacefully' is the adverb form of 'peaceful', describing how the baby slept. The baby slept all night, which implies restful sleep — 'loudly' is wrong because it contradicts the idea of sleeping well through the night. Add -ly to adjectives ending in -ful to make adverbs: careful → carefully, peaceful → peacefully.

4. “clearly” (a)

'Clearly' is the adverb telling us how to write. It is formed by adding -ly to the adjective 'clear'. 'Clearer' is a comparative adjective, and 'clarity' is a noun.

5. “fluently” (d)

'Fluently' is the adverb describing how she speaks. Add -ly to 'fluent'. 'Fluent' is an adjective, 'fluency' is a noun, and 'fluentier' is not a real word — the comparative is 'more fluent'.

6. “angrily” (a)

When an adjective ends in -y, change the -y to -i and add -ly: angry → angrily. A dog barking AT a stranger is reacting aggressively, not gently — 'softly' is wrong because it contradicts the aggressive context. 'Anger' is a noun, 'angry' is an adjective.

7. “quickly” (b)

'Quickly' is the adverb formed by adding -ly to 'quick'. The phrase 'before dinner' tells us he finished with speed — 'slowly' is wrong because it contradicts the idea of finishing in time. 'Quick' is an adjective, 'quicken' is a verb meaning 'to speed up'.

8. “gracefully” (a)

'Gracefully' is the adverb form of 'graceful'. Add -ly to adjectives ending in -ful: graceful → gracefully. 'Grace' is a noun, and 'gracefulness' is also a noun.

9. “attentively” (c)

'Attentively' is the adverb describing how the students listened. It is formed by adding -ly to 'attentive'. 'Attentive' is an adjective, 'attention' and 'attentiveness' are nouns.

10. “painfully” (a)

'Painfully' is the adverb formed from 'painful' + -ly, describing how he walked. He hurt his leg, so walking would be painful — 'cheerfully' is wrong because an injury would not make someone walk in a happy manner. 'Painful' is an adjective, 'pain' is a noun.

11. “gently” (b)

When an adjective ends in -le, drop the -e and add -y: gentle → gently. 'Gentle' is an adjective, 'gentleness' is a noun, and 'gentler' is a comparative adjective.

12. “patiently” (c)

'Patiently' is the adverb describing how she waited. Add -ly to 'patient'. 'Patient' is an adjective (or a noun meaning someone receiving medical care), 'patience' is a noun, and 'patients' is the plural noun.

13. “cautiously” (b)

'Cautiously' is the adverb form of 'cautious', telling us how they explored. Exploring a dark cave calls for care and caution — 'cheerily' is wrong because the dark setting suggests wariness, not cheerfulness. 'Caution' is a noun, 'cautious' is an adjective.

14. “silently” (c)

'Silently' is the adverb formed by adding -ly to 'silent'. A cat creeping towards a bird must move without sound — 'loudly' is wrong because noise would scare the bird away. 'Silent' is an adjective, 'silence' is a noun.

15. “thoroughly” (d)

'Thoroughly' is the adverb form of 'thorough'. It describes how he polished. 'Thorough' is an adjective, 'thoroughness' is a noun, and 'thorougher' is not standard — the comparative is 'more thorough'.

16. “lovely” (d)

'Lovely' is an adjective, not an adverb, even though it ends in -ly. Words like 'lovely', 'friendly', 'lonely', and 'silly' are adjectives that end in -ly. Here we need an adjective to describe 'woman'.

17. “fine” (c)

After the linking verb 'be', we use an adjective. 'Fine' is an adjective meaning 'OK' or 'satisfactory'. 'Finely' is an adverb meaning 'in small pieces' (e.g., finely chopped), which doesn't fit this context.

18. “narrow” (c)

After the linking verb 'is', we use the adjective 'narrow' to describe the road. 'Narrowly' is an adverb (e.g., 'He narrowly escaped'), but it does not fit after 'is' to describe a noun.

19. “lively” (b)

'Lively' is an adjective meaning 'full of energy', even though it ends in -ly. It describes the noun 'dog'. There is no standard adverb form 'livelily' — we say 'in a lively way' instead.

20. “wonderful” (d)

After the linking verb 'sounds', we use an adjective, not an adverb. 'That sounds wonderful' describes the idea itself. 'Wonderfully' is an adverb and would not be correct after 'sounds' in this context.