



Adverbs Basics: Adverbs of Degree

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- The weather is ___ nice today. Let's go for a walk!
a) too
b) enough
c) really
d) many
- This coffee is ___ hot to drink. Let me wait a minute.
a) too
b) enough
c) really
d) very
- She isn't old ___ to drive a car. She's only 14.
a) too
b) enough
c) much
d) very
- The book was ___ interesting — not amazing, but worth reading.
a) too
b) much
c) fairly
d) enough
- He was ___ tired after running the marathon.
a) fairly
b) much
c) enough
d) extremely
- The suitcase is ___ heavy for me to carry alone. Can you help?
a) enough
b) too
c) really
d) very
- Do we have ___ time to finish the project?
a) too
b) very
c) fairly
d) enough
- I thought the exam would be difficult, but it was ___ easy — not super easy, but easier than I expected.
a) slightly
b) enough
c) too
d) quite
- He's ___ sure about the answer. He checked it three times.
a) fairly
b) absolutely
c) hardly
d) slightly
- This bag is not big ___ for all my books.
a) very
b) too
c) really
d) enough
- She was ___ surprised by the news. She didn't expect it at all.
a) enough
b) completely
c) fairly
d) slightly



Answers

1. c) really
2. a) too
3. b) enough
4. c) fairly
5. d) extremely
6. b) too
7. d) enough
8. d) quite
9. b) absolutely
10. d) enough
11. b) completely
12. a) slightly
13. a) rather
14. c) so
15. a) incredibly
16. d) too
17. c) delicious
18. b) enough
19. c) nearly
20. a) absolutely



Explanations

1. “really” (c)

'Really' is a degree adverb meaning 'very'. 'Really nice' = very nice. 'Too nice' would imply 'excessively nice', which doesn't fit this positive context. 'Enough' comes after adjectives, not before. 'Many' is used with countable nouns.

2. “too” (a)

'Too' means 'more than what is needed or acceptable'. 'Too hot to drink' = so hot that you cannot drink it. 'Very hot' simply describes a high temperature without implying inability. The structure 'too + adjective + to + verb' indicates an excessive degree.

3. “enough” (b)

'Enough' comes AFTER an adjective: 'old enough' = sufficiently old. 'She isn't old enough' = she is not sufficiently old. Remember the word order: adjective + enough (not enough + adjective).

4. “fairly” (c)

'Fairly' means 'to some extent' or 'moderately'. 'Fairly interesting' = somewhat interesting. The context 'not amazing, but worth reading' confirms a moderate degree. 'Too' means 'excessively', 'enough' follows adjectives, and 'much' cannot directly modify adjectives.

5. “extremely” (d)

'Extremely' is a strong degree adverb meaning 'to a very great degree'. Running a marathon is very demanding, so 'extremely tired' fits perfectly. 'Fairly tired' would be too weak. 'Enough' follows adjectives, and 'much' cannot directly modify adjectives.

6. “too” (b)

'Too' means 'more than acceptable'. 'Too heavy to carry' = so heavy that I cannot carry it alone. This is why help is needed. 'Very heavy' just describes the weight without implying inability.

7. “enough” (d)

'Enough' comes BEFORE a noun: 'enough time' = sufficient time. Compare the two positions: 'old enough' (after adjective) vs 'enough money' (before noun). 'Too', 'very', and 'fairly' cannot be used directly before nouns in this way.

8. “quite” (d)

'Quite' means 'to a fairly large extent'. 'Quite easy' = fairly/pretty easy. It indicates the exam was easier than expected. 'Too easy' would mean 'excessively easy', 'slightly' would mean 'only a little', and 'enough' follows adjectives.

9. “absolutely” (b)

'Absolutely' means '100%, completely'. 'Absolutely sure' = completely certain. Checking three times confirms total certainty. 'Slightly sure' and 'fairly sure' would mean only partial certainty, contradicting the context.

10. “enough” (d)

'Enough' comes AFTER an adjective: 'not big enough' = not sufficiently big. The structure is 'adjective + enough + for/to'. Compare: 'enough time' (before noun) vs 'big enough' (after adjective).

11. “completely” (b)

'Completely' means 'totally, 100%'. 'Completely surprised' fits the context of 'didn't expect it at all'. 'Slightly' and 'fairly' would indicate only partial surprise, which contradicts the context.

12. “slightly” (a)

'Slightly' means 'a little, to a small degree'. 'Slightly warm' = a little warm, which matches 'not hot, not cold'. 'Extremely' and 'absolutely' would be too strong. 'Too warm' would mean uncomfortably warm.

13. “rather” (a)

'Rather' is often used to express mild criticism or displeasure. 'Rather expensive for such a small room' suggests the price was higher than justified. 'Slightly' would be too mild, 'completely expensive' is unnatural, and 'enough' follows adjectives.

14. “so” (c)

'So' is a degree adverb meaning 'to such a great extent'. 'So excited that they couldn't sleep' = excited to such a degree. 'Slightly' and 'fairly' would be too weak for the context of not being able to sleep.

15. “incredibly” (a)

'Incredibly' means 'to an unbelievable degree'. 'Incredibly fast' = amazingly fast, which explains why she wins every race. 'Slightly' and 'fairly' fast would not explain winning every race. 'Enough' follows adjectives and adverbs.

16. “too” (d)

'Too young to vote' uses the 'too + adjective + to + verb' structure, meaning 'so young that she cannot vote'. 'Very young to vote', 'really young to vote', and 'quite young to vote' are not grammatically natural — only 'too' fits the 'too ... to' pattern.

17. “delicious” (c)

'Absolutely' is used with ungradable (extreme) adjectives like 'delicious', 'perfect', and 'amazing'. We say 'absolutely delicious' but NOT 'absolutely good' or 'absolutely nice' — for gradable adjectives, use 'very' instead (very good, very nice).

18. “enough” (b)

'Enough' before a noun means 'sufficient'. 'Not enough chairs' = not sufficient chairs. Remember: 'enough' goes BEFORE nouns but AFTER adjectives. 'Many' just means 'a large number' but doesn't convey insufficiency.

19. “nearly” (c)

'Nearly' means 'almost'. 'Nearly impossible' = almost impossible. 'Very impossible' is incorrect because 'impossible' is an ungradable adjective — you cannot say 'very impossible'. 'Fairly impossible' is also unnatural. 'Too impossible' is redundant.

20. “absolutely” (a)

'Absolutely perfect' is correct because 'perfect' is an ungradable adjective — it already means 100%. Use 'absolutely/completely/totally' with ungradable adjectives, not 'very'. 'Very perfect' is incorrect in standard English.