Adverbials

A picture guide for Year 5. Adverbials and fronted adverbials are used in almost every piece of Year 5 writing.

An adverbial tells you more about a verb.

It answers **when**, **where**, **how** or **how often**. One word (an adverb) or a group of words.

When?

yesterday · after lunch · at midnight · later that day

We left **after lunch**.

Where?

here · in the garden · under the bridge · far away

The fox hid **under the bridge**.

How?

quickly · without a sound · as fast as he could

She crept **without a sound**.

How often?

often · every morning · twice a week · never

I read **every morning**.

Adverb or adverbial?

Adverb - one word

He ran **quickly** .

Adverbial - a word or a group

He ran **as fast as a cheetah** .

Every adverb is an adverbial, but not every adverbial is a single adverb.

Adverbials: fronted

Moving an adverbial to the start of a sentence is called "fronting" it.

Fronted adverbials: move it to the front, add a comma

We went swimming | after school.

⇅ move it to the front

After school, | we went swimming.

Great sentence starters

Time	Later that day, · At midnight, · Before long, · As the sun rose,
Place	In the distance, · Under the bridge, · Across the field,
How	Without a sound, · Slowly, · As quick as a flash, · Nervously,
How often	Every morning, · Once a week, · Sometimes,

Year 5 link: adverbials like *First, Later, Meanwhile, Finally* also link paragraphs together. That is part of **cohesion** - see the Cohesion picture guide.

Your turn: add the missing comma

1. After lunch we played football.
2. In the distance a wolf howled.
3. Every Saturday Gran visits us.
4. Without a word the girl left the room.

For parents: Year 5 writing is marked on varying sentence openings - a fronted adverbial with its comma is the quickest win.

Answers: 1. After lunch, 2. In the distance, 3. Every Saturday, 4. Without a word,