

**Grammar: Adjective or Adverb?**

Uses



**A. Adjectives** refer to (or: modify) nouns:

- (a) Richard is a **careful driver**. (**careful** refers to: *driver*).
- (b) *Pam* is **happy**. (**happy** refers to: *Pam*)
- (c) Jack is a **quiet boy**. (**quiet** refers to: *boy*)



**B. Adverbs** refer to (or: modify) (a) verbs or (b) adjectives or (c) other adverbs

- (a) Richard *drives* **carefully**. (**carefully** refers to: *drives*)  
 Pam often *sings* **happily** on her way home. (**happily** refers to: *sings*)  
 Jack is *speaking* **quietly**. (**quietly** refers to: *is speaking*)
- (b) Today I am **extremely sad**. (**extremely** refers to: *sad*)  
 This is **totally different**. (**totally** refers to: *different*)
- (c) They walked **incredibly slowly**. (**incredibly** refers to: *slowly*)  
 She speaks **intolerably loudly**. (**intolerably** refers to: *loudly*)



Exercises







1. Adjective or adverb?

Read the article and underline the correct adjective or adverb. Please circle the word which the adjectives or adverbs refer to.

**Pet lovers around the world**

Which pets are the most popular? That, of course, **large/largely** depends on where you live and what you think about pets in general. For example, if you go to Egypt, you may be **disappointed/disappointedly** because you don't see a single cat.

biggest pet lovers (per head)				
1.	USA	USA	Australia	Sweden
2.	Poland	France	Italy	Germany
3.	South Africa	Ukraine	Spain	Australia

In fact, the biggest cat lovers **actual/actually** live in the USA. When it comes to owning cats and dogs, the Americans are top of the league. In second and third places in the dog lovers' list are Poland and South Africa, whereas France and the Ukraine are second and third when it comes to cats.

When people think about who are the most **enthusiastic/enthusiastically** bird lovers they will **probable/probably** think about China and Japan. They are only **part/partly** right. China and Japan have by far more pet birds (together almost 100 million) than any other country, but not per head. Who would have thought that it's actually the Australians who are more **passionate/passionately** about birds than any other nation?

And who likes fish – not for lunch or dinner, of course? Australians like them a lot, Germans even more, but that is nothing compared to Sweden where there is one pet fish per Swede. Obviously, the Swedes love fish **particular/particularly** **passionate/passionately**.



## 2. Fill in the gaps

Look at the list of words below and fill in the gaps with the correct adjective or adverb:

**clever – extreme – happy – loud – quick – quiet – quiet – real**

a) "Our new neighbours have twenty of them in their garden. They really annoy me because they quack just too \_\_\_\_\_."

b) "At first we only had a green one, but now we have a yellow one, too. They must be very \_\_\_\_\_ because they can already say a few words."

c) "We only got her last week and when I don't feel good she \_\_\_\_\_ comes to me and sits on my lap."

d) "I don't like them that much, but it's \_\_\_\_\_ funny to see them running so \_\_\_\_\_ in their little wheels."

e) "When we got them, our little son was very \_\_\_\_\_. He was sitting in front of the glass almost every day for a whole year."

f) "I think they look ugly with their long tails but they are \_\_\_\_\_ (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (2) \_\_\_\_\_." You never hear them.



3. Now look at the list of pets below. Which sentence (from a – f) describes which pet?

parrot  ; cat  duck  ; fish  ; hamster  ; rat



### Key to the exercises

- |  |                     |              |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| 1. largely (refers to: 'depends')        | 2. (a) loudly       | 3. parrot: b |
| disappointed (refers to: 'you')          | (b) clever          | cat: c       |
| actually (refers to: 'live')             | (c) quietly         | duck: a      |
| enthusiastic (refers to: 'bird lovers')  | (d) really          | fish: e      |
| partly (refers to: 'right')              | quickly             | hamster: f   |
| passionate (refers to: 'Australians')    | (e) happy           | rat: d       |
| particularly (refers to: 'passionately') | (f) extremely quiet |              |
| passionately (refers to: 'love')         |                     |              |