

Unit Seven Common Mistakes at IELTS and How to Avoid Them: Adjectives and Adverbs

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Adjectives and adverbs

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a This difference can be explained quite easy.

b This difference can be explained quite easily.

2 a It is clearly that people without money do not have as much freedom.

b It is clear that people without money do not have as much freedom.

Adjectives are used to describe a noun: Today life is very **complicated**. (*complicated* describes the noun *life*)

To describe a whole idea or situation, we can use *It is* + adjective + *that*-clause or *It is* + adjective + *to* + infinitive:

It is essential that you bring back all of your books before the end of term.

It is important to begin studying several weeks before the exam.

Adverbs can be used to describe a verb: We must **act quickly**. (*quickly* describes the verb *act*) or an adjective: This chart is **significantly different**. (not *significant-different*) (*significantly* is an adverb describing the adjective *different*).

We use adverbs such as *unfortunately* to show how we feel about something:

Unfortunately, he's not well. (*unfortunately* shows I feel this is a bad thing)

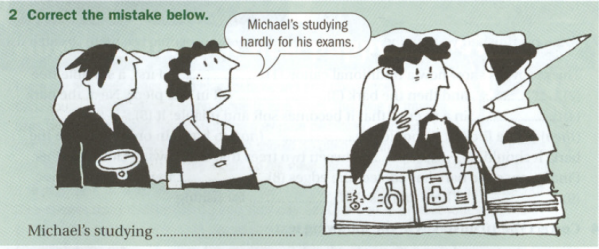
☆ Some adverbs are irregular, e.g. *fast, hard, well*: He ran as **fast** as he could. (not *fastly*)

Answers

1.

2.

2 Correct the mistake below.



Answers

3 Underline the correct words.

1 I didn't play very good / well in our last football match.

2 In 1980, this figure increased sharp / sharply to 75%.

3 There was a gradual / gradually increase in numbers between 1990 and 1995.

4 It is clear / clearly that people with experience can find a job more easy / easily.

5 I strong / strongly agree with this point of view.

6 Severe / Severely punishments may not help to reduce crime.

7 Unfortunate / Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting this Saturday.

8 It is vital / vitaly important to address these problems before it is too late.

Answers

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.