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CLASSIFYING ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

Descriptive words bring a *noun* (person, place, or thing) or a *verb* (action word) to life. Descriptive words are classified into two categories: *adverbs* and *adjectives*.

ADVERBS MOST OFTEN DESCRIBE VERBS

The fox **quickly** jumped over the fence.
quickly modifies *jumped*

The baby was **still** crying, even after she had been fed.
still modifies *crying*

ADJECTIVES DESCRIBE NOUNS

The **muddy** river overflowed onto the road.
muddy modifies *river*

Only the **best** athletes make it to the Olympics.
best modifies *athletes*

DIRECTIONS

In the exercise below, you will be classifying the bolded word(s) as an adjective or an adverb. Read the sentence and circle the correct response. On the blank below, write in the word that the adjective or adverb modifies. The first one has been done for you.

EXAMPLE:

She was short and plump, with **ginger-brown** skin and big dark eyes.

adjective adverb

word modified: skin

1. The van rolled **smoothly** through the city.

adjective adverb

word modified: _____

2. As the group huddled **together** on the sidewalk, Ms. Dodd struck the brass door plate with the heavy ring that hung over it.

adjective adverb

word modified: _____

continued





DETERMINING CONFLICT

Stories always contain some type of conflict. A *conflict* is a struggle that a character faces.

DIRECTIONS

Below are excerpts from the story that contain conflicts. For each excerpt, decide who or what is involved in the conflict. Note: There may be more than one conflict in a passage. You need only identify one.

EXAMPLE

Mimi's special interest was science, more specifically environmental biology. The year before, both Mimi and Connie had competed in the school's annual essay contest. Mimi had written an impassioned plea for saving the tropical rain forests. Connie's paper was about teen drug abuse. Mimi's paper won second place, and Connie's came in first.

But an angry Mimi filed a protest with the judges. She claimed Connie had plagiarized a newspaper article. However, the judges didn't agree. They awarded Connie the prize—a savings bond for five hundred dollars. Mimi had been furious. Now she stood glaring at Alissa.

_____ Mimi _____

struggles with _____

_____ Connie _____

Excerpt 1

"I want to see those man-eating snakes he's got," George said.

"Snakes don't eat people," Mimi said, looking at George in disgust. "Besides, even if they did, no *man*-eating snake would eat *you*, George."

"Very funny, Mimi," said George. "Ha, ha."

"Honestly, Quinn," Mimi continued. "how'd you ever became an Acorn? You don't seem to know anything about anything."

"I know about having friends, which is more than *you* can say," George quickly replied.

_____ struggles with _____

Excerpt 2

Screaming and crying, the group ran to the main building. Connie started to stumble, and Ramon grabbed her hand to keep her from falling.

"Hurry! Hurry!" he urged.

They reached the big wooden door. Ms. Dodd grabbed the knob and twisted it. "It's locked!" she screamed.

Instantly, Ramon threw himself at the door, but it was no use. The latch was frozen, and the door was too heavy to budge.

_____ struggles with _____

continued

