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Grammar Reference

Grammar Reference: Sentence adverbs

Sentence adverbs modify a whole sentence, not just part of it. Sentence adverbs are used to express the speaker's reason for speaking, or their attitude and opinion.

Certainty: clearly, definitely, obviously, unquestionably

Example: Unquestionably, studios are really interested in producing movies about superheroes.

Less certainty: apparently, supposedly

Example: Supposedly, more women have been cast in leading roles in the past decade than ever before.

Possibility/probability: possibly, potentially, probably

Example: This new space movie will probably do very well in theaters.

Speaking directly and honestly: frankly, honestly, seriously

Example: Honestly, I think that new comedy T.V. show is really boring.

Summarizing: basically, essentially, overall

Example: This movie is essentially a romantic comedy.

Other attitudes: surprisingly, not surprisingly, predictably, fortunately, unfortunately

Example: Unfortunately, the movie wasn't very popular with younger audiences.

They can be placed in three different places: at the beginning of a sentence, before an auxiliary verb, or after an auxiliary verb.

When a sentence adverb begins a sentence, it is separated by a comma.

Example: **Fortunately**, they were able to capture the criminal

In spoken, informal English sentence adverbs come at the end of sentence.

Example: It's too late to go now, **obviously**.

Grammar Reference: *such...that* and *so...that*

So and **such**, **such...that**, **so...that**, **so much/little...that**, and **so many/few...that** are commonly used to express extremes in exclamatory sentences. In spoken, informal English we often leave *that* out.

Such is followed by a noun, which is usually modified by an adjective.

Example: That drama was **such** an engaging show (**that**) I recommended it to everyone I know.

So is followed by an adjective or adverb.

Example: That drama was **so** engaging (**that**) I recommended it to everyone I know.

So many and **so few** are followed by count nouns.

Example: Their conversations were filled with **so few** jokes **that** I wondered if it was actually a comedy.

We stream **so many** T.V. shows **that** the internet is slower for everyone else.

So much and **so little** are followed by noncount nouns.

Example: My busy schedule leaves me **so little** time to watch TV **that** I haven't seen the new reality T.V. show.

We were having **so much** fun (**that**) we forgot to eat.

When **such** is followed by a singular count noun, the noun is preceded by the indefinite article. When **such** is followed by a plural count noun or noncount noun, no article is used.

Example: The sitcom had **such** a predictable storyline (**that**) I stopped watching it.

The two main characters showed **such** great talent in the movie (**that**) it brought me to tears.