

## ENGLISH ADVERBIAL STRUCTURE

Oleh

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### ABSTRACT

This paper mainly discusses about the English adverbial. This is discussed because there is an overlapping between what an adverb is and what an adverbial is. The writer aims to analyze 1) the relation between adverb and adverbial, 2) the units realizing the adverbial function, 3) the syntactical structure of the adverbial and 4) the tree diagram of the adverbial. These problems are analyzed by using qualitative method. The problems are answered by the theory from Quirk (1985), except the last problem, the tree diagram of the adverbial, is answered by using the theory of Miller (1994). From the discussion some findings are concluded. *First*, it is found that adverbs are one-word items that modify verbs. Adverbials may be single words (i.e. adverbs) or else phrases that provide information about when, where, how, or why things happen. *Second*, the units realizing adverbial function are: adverb phrases, noun phrases, prepositional phrases, finite verb clauses, non-finite verb clauses, and verbless clauses. *Third*, the structure of adverbial is divided into three parts; adjunct, conjunct, and disjunct. *Fourth*, the tree diagram of the adverbial is determined whether the adverbial is phrase adverbial or sentence adverbial.

Key words: adverb, adverbial, adjunct, conjunct, disjunct.

### ABSTRAK

Tulisan ini membahas tentang adverbial bahasa Inggris. Hal ini dibahas karena ada tumpang tindih antara apa kata keterangan dan apa yang adverbial adalah. Penulis bertujuan untuk menganalisis 1) hubungan antara adverbial dan adverbial, 2) unit untuk menunjukkan fungsi adverbial, 3) struktur sintaksis adverbial dan 4) diagram pohon adverbial. Masalah-masalah ini dianalisis dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Masalah dijawab oleh teori dari Quirk (1985), kecuali masalah terakhir, diagram pohon adverbial, dijawab dengan menggunakan teori Miller (1994). Dari diskusi beberapa temuan dapat disimpulkan beberapa hal. Pertama, ditemukan bahwa kata keterangan adalah item satu kata yang memodifikasi kata kerja. Adverbial mungkin adalah kata-kata tunggal (yaitu kata keterangan) atau frase yang memberikan informasi tentang kapan, di mana, bagaimana, atau mengapa sesuatu terjadi. Kedua, unit yang menunjukkan fungsi adverbial adalah: frase adverbial, frasa nominal, frasa preposisional, klausa verba terbatas, klausa verba non-terbatas, dan klausul tak berverba. Ketiga, struktur adverbial dibagi menjadi tiga bagian; adjunct, conjunct, dan disjunct. Keempat, diagram pohon adverbial ditentukan melalui frase adverbial atau kalimat adverbial.

Kata kunci: kata keterangan, adverbial, adjunct, conjunct, disjunct

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Adverbs and adverbials are similar but do not always show the same form. Though they share the same modifying function, their characters are different. An adverb is a type of word class or part of speech. An adverb is parallel with the word class like: noun (N), verb (V), adjective (Adj.), and so on. In the other hand, an adverbial is a sentence element which has a functional category. It is a part of a sentence that performs the function of an adverb. Functionally, a sentence may consist of elements such as subject (S), verb (V), object (O), complement (C), and adverbial (A). We can say that an adverb may serve as an adverbial, but an adverbial is not necessarily an adverb. By this understanding, learners should know more about these issues (adverb and adverbial). They must focus on what is the sameness and the difference of them because it is simply understood that between adverb and adverbial is the same since they refers to the same thing.

1. The man drove the car slowly.  
 Adverb  $\longrightarrow$  Word class  
 Adverbial  $\longrightarrow$  Function

It is absolutely right that the word *slowly* is either as an adverb or adverbial. In other word, the adverb serves as an adverbial function in this case. As an adverb or adverbial because *slowly* explains the verb *drove* from the question *how the man drove the car?* This adverb or adverbial semantically belongs to adverb of manner. However, in the others cases between adverb and adverbial there is different. It is like the two examples below:

2. He cut the cucumber with a knife.  
 P, Ar, N ~~Word class~~  
 Adverbial  $\longrightarrow$  Function

3. Anom met Susan in the market.  
 P, Ar, N ~~Word class~~  
 Adverbial  $\longrightarrow$  Function

In the two sentences above, it is not agreeable that adverb and adverbial are the same. The phrase *with a knife* consists of three words and belongs to the prepositional phrase; *in the market* consists of three words belongs to prepositional phrase too. The underlined words are group of words with different word class. Even, there is no adverb from the underlined. Based on the class, the sentence no. 2: *with* belongs to preposition, *a* article, *knife* noun; the sentence no.3 : *in* preposition, *the* article, and *market* noun. Both the phrases *with a knife* and *in the market* are syntactically functioning as adverbial, but no one from those words is an adverb. By this problem, the writer wants to discuss further about the relation between adverb and adverbial.

The adverbial function is realized by adverbial phrase as the example below:

4. John picked up Agust there.  
 NP      ~~Word class~~ NP      Adv. P  
 Function

In this sentence it is seen that the adverbial phrase (Adv.P) *there* fulfills the function as adverbial. Although adverbial phrase realize adverbial function, in other hand, adverbial functions are not always realized by the adverb phrases, they can be realized by noun phrase, prepositional phrase, or the other phrase. That is why the writer focuses this issue as the second problem.

The adverbial is very free in their placement they can locate in the first position, middle, or final position of the clause or sentence. As the example below:

5. Sentence initial: *Yesterday*, I ran a marathon.  
 6. Sentence final: I ran a marathon *yesterday*.

7. Preverbal: I *always* run well in the heat.
8. Post verbal: I handed the baton *quickly* to the next runner.
9. Within the verb group I have *never* won a race.

The grouping of the adverbial based on the position is an important thing, but there is more necessary; it is how the adverbial grouped in terms of syntactic structure. It is about the relation of adverbial to the other phrases and clauses in a sentence. And the last thing to be discussed here is how to diagramize the adverbial based on the syntactical analysis, tree diagram.

### 1.1 Aim of the Study

As it has already mentioned above, this discussion has four main points. They are:

1. How is the relation between adverb and adverbial?
2. What units realizing adverbial function?
3. How is the type of adverbial syntactically?
4. How is the structure of the adverbial

## 1. DISCUSSION

### a. The Relation between Adverb and Adverbial

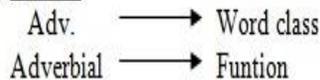
As it is mentioned in the background above, that adverb and adverbial are related. Some people think that they are the same. The issue is what we mean by saying an adverb and what we mean by saying an adverbial. Before discussing about adverb and adverbial further, we had better find what some experts say about them. According Brown and Miller, adverb and adverbial are two terms that in some cases they are alike but actually different in term of form and function. In general, adverb

belongs to word class that modifies verb, adjective, and another adverb, so an adverb in this case is a word class like noun (N), adjective (Adj.), verb (V), or conjunction (Conj). Meanwhile, adverbial (A) is a functional category belonging to a sentence element, similar to subject (S), verb (V), object (O), and complement (C), that modifies the verb of the sentence or the sentence itself in terms of time, place, reason, result or others. In order not to confuse the reader, it is necessary to mention that when we talk about an adverb as an hyponym of an adverbial, it is only the adverb that modifies a verb is being meant, in the exclusion of adjective- and noun-modifying adverbs. The idea is that the so-called adverb of degree, such as *very* in the phrase *very beautiful*, for instance, is not really an adverb in the real sense. Words such as *very* cannot be used to modify a verb. This would make sense when we trace the etymology of the word 'adverb' which "... derives from the Latin ad-verbium, meaning "(added) to the verb." (Encyclopedia Americana, vol. 1, p. 194, 1995)

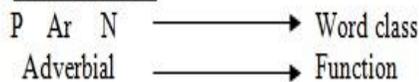
Thus, the difference between adverbs and adverbials is one of a hierarchy; in which adverbial belong to the higher order or the hypernym while the adverb belongs to lower order or the hyponym. An *Adverb* is a one-word item that modifies a verb. An adverb may indicate manner, time, place, cause, or degree and answers questions such as "how," "when," "where," "how much". While some adverbs can be identified by their characteristic "-ly" suffix, most of them must be identified by untangling the grammatical relationships within the sentence or clause as a whole. Unlike an adjective, an adverb can be found in various places within the sentence. An *Adverbial*, on the other hand, may be single words or else phrases that provide information about when, where, how, or why things happen.

So an *adverb*, we can say, falls into the functional category of an adverbial. Both Adverb and adverbial belong to the predicate, and the presence of any one of them may be placed next to the verb or after the object. But it may be found at the beginning of a sentence. A general idea which may be useful is this: elements in a sentence organize around the heart of the sentence, S + V, in a hierarchical manner: the more important they are, the closer they are to the heart. Many adverbs are derived from adjectives by adding the suffix ‘-ly’ such as slow + ly, quick + ly, smooth + ly, to name just a few and they describe how someone does something. They describe the size, shape, number of an object (noun). Instead of using an adverb, an adverbial may use a phrase modifying a verb. A comparison may be made between the two as in (10) and (11).

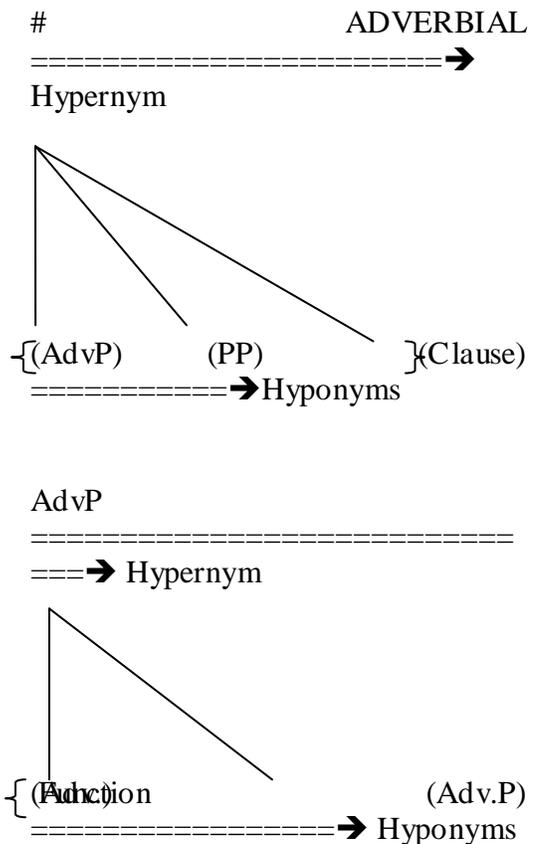
10. John is studying English upstairs.



11. The duck slept in the kitchen.



The word ‘upstairs’ (10) is an adverb as well as an adverbial. It is an adverb because this single word ‘upstairs’ understandably refers to a location where an activity takes place. It is also an adverbial because it is the hyponym of the adverbial. This adverbial belongs to the higher node, the hyponym. While *in the kitchen* in (11) cannot be called an adverb because it is a phrase which consists of three words and does not consist any adverb at all in it, the phrase itself functions in the same way as an adverb, i.e. modifying the verb ‘slept’. The following diagram might help to see the difference between an adverb and an adverbial.



A single adverb may be realized as in the (12), out of which an adverb phrase is produced, as in (13).

- 10. The student solved that math problem independently. (an adverb)
- 11. The student solved that math problem independently of his teacher. (Adv.P)

**b. Unit Realizing Adverbial Function**

As stated above, adverbial is a syntactical function which provides information about when, where, how, or why things happen. According to Quirk and Greenbaum (1985) adverbial is not only realized by an adverb phrase but also by other phrases as well functioning as an adverbial. The phrases or clauses function as an adverbial (A) by providing information about when, where, how, or why things





Disjunct is an adverbial function which is peripheral to the clause and denotes the speaker's judgment or attitude toward what is said in the clause, such as expressing the speaker's degree of truthfulness or manner of speaking. It modifies the entire clause, not just the VP. They are traditionally called *sentence adverbial*.

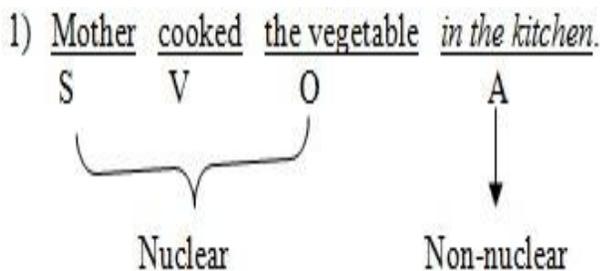
Example:

- 1) Frankly, I don't care.  
Disj.
- 2) Personally, I don't agree with the idea.  
Disj.

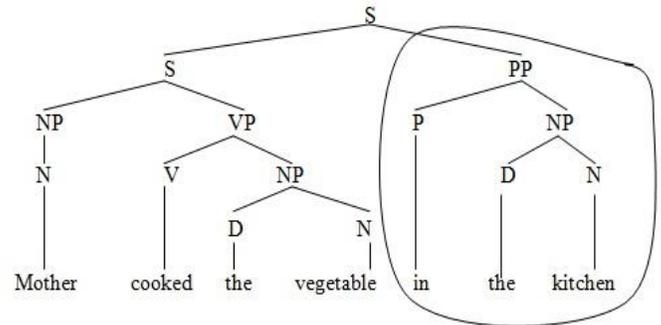
*Frankly* and *personally* are two adverbials which belong to disjunct because they are peripheral to the main clauses and they show the speaker's judgment and attitude toward what is said the clauses.

**d. The Tree Diagram of the Adverbial**

Before we discuss to describe the structure of adverbial by tree diagram, it is better to treat a little bit about phrase adverbial and sentence adverbial. It is preceded by the term constituent. Constituent of a sentence consists of nuclear and non-nuclear. Nuclear constituents are NP + VP and all that is immediately dominated by VP. It is obligatory for the sentence to be accepted as grammatical, or criteria for verb classification. In the other hand, Non-nuclear constituents are optional and typically modifiers. Non-nuclear constituents can be placed in a separate sentence.



This sentence can be diagramized as follow:



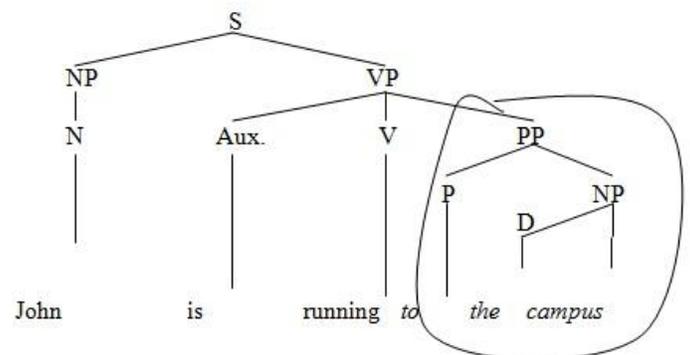
One point to be emphasised is that distinguishing between nuclear and non-nuclear is not just a simple matter which focuses on optional. It is not entirely straightforward, for instance the elements coming after the motion verb *run*.

- 1) John is running to the campus.  
Obligatory      optional



Nuclear

This sentence can be diagramized as follow:

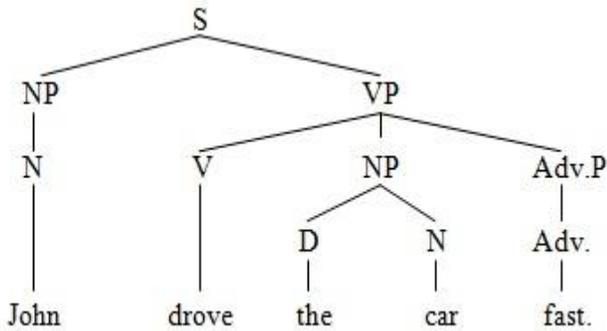


As it is stated above, adverbial is structurally divided into three; adjunct, conjunct, and disjunct. However, the division of the three category is based on their integration to the clause. If it's integrated to the clause, it's adjunct. In the other hand, if it's peripheral to the clause it's

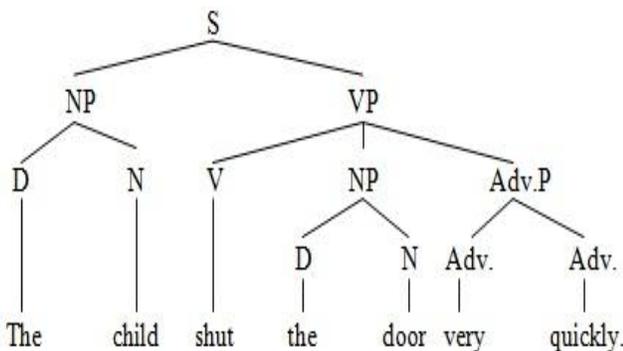
conjunct or disjunct. As the result, how to diagramize the types of adverbial depends on whether the adverbial is integrated or peripheral to the clause. The tree diagram of adverbial is like the diagram below.

**a. Adjunct**

1) John drove the car *fast*.

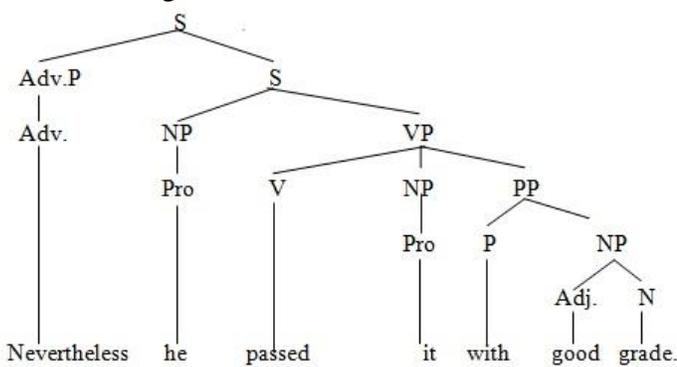


2) The child shut the door *very quickly*.

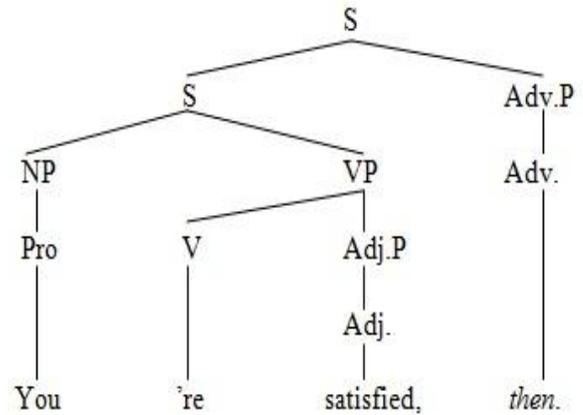


**b. Conjunct**

1) *Nevertheless*, he passed it with good grade.

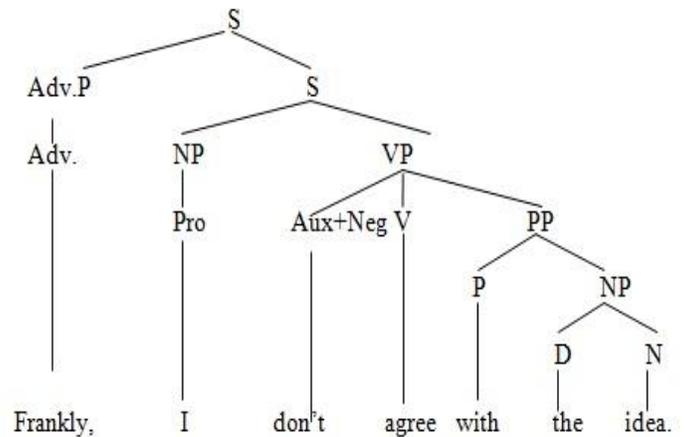


2) You're satisfied, *then*.

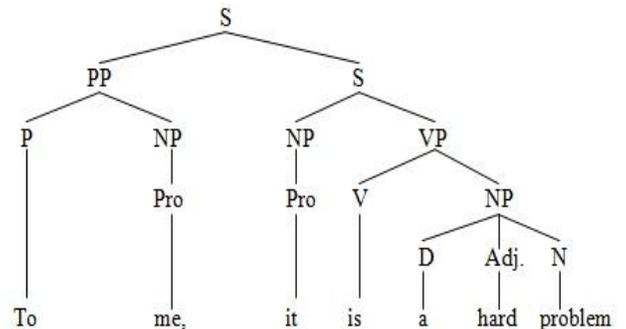


**c. Disjunct**

1) *Frankly*, I don't agree with the idea.



2) *To me*, it is a hard problem.



**CONCLUSION**

From the discussion above, it can be concluded four points. They are: the relation between adverb and adverbial, the units realizing adverbial function, the structure of adverbial syntactically, and the tree diagram of the adverbial.

First, the relation between adverb and adverbial; *Adverb* is one-word items that modify verbs. An adverb indicates manner, time, place, cause, and answers questions such as "how," "when," "where," "how much". *Adverbial* may be single words or else phrases that provide information

about when, where, how, or why things happen. So adverb falls into the category of adverbial. Second, the units realizing adverbial function are as follows: adverb phrases, noun phrases, prepositional phrases, finite verb clauses, non-finite verb clauses, and verbless clauses. Third, the structure of adverbial is divided into three parts; adjunct, conjunct, and disjunct. Finally, the tree diagram of the adverbial is determined whether the adverbial is phrase adverbial or sentence adverbial.

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