ADVERBS

Adjectives usually go with nouns. Other words go with verbs. The words that go with verbs are called *Adverbs*.

Some tell how an action is done. Examples:

The old man walked (verb) slowly (adverb) along a street;
The little boy ran (verb) quickly (adverb);
The woodcutter sat (verb) sorrowfully (adverb) by the side of the river.

These adverbs are called *Adverbs of Manner*. Notice that adverbs are often formed by adding '-ly' to an adjective, e.g.

The boy is a quick runner. (adjective)
The boy runs quickly. (adverb)

The old man was a slow walker. (adjective)
The old man walked slowly. (adverb)

The bird sang a merry song. (adjective)
The bird sang a song merrily. (adverb)

Note that when the adjective ends in 'y' the adverb changes the 'y' to 'i'. But there are some adverbs that are not formed like this, examples:

John is a hard worker. (adjective)
John works hard. (adverb)

This is a fast train. (adjective)
This train is fast. (adverb)

Notice also that adverbs are generally put after the verb they go with; adjectives are generally put before the noun they go with.

A few adverbs tell us not how but when an action was done, e.g.

The woodman lost his axe yesterday. (When did he lose it?)
We must come to school tomorrow. (When must we come to school?)

These adverbs are called *Adverbs of Time*. A few adverbs tell us where an action was done, e.g. *I sat down <u>there</u>*. (Where did I sit down?) These adverbs are called *Adverbs of Place*.

An adverb goes with a verb to tell how, when or where an action takes place.