

Detail Word Detectives

Sort detail words by the job they do.

7.LU.1.C “Use specific adjectives and adverbs to enhance speech and writing.”

NAME _____

DATE _____

SPECIFIC ADJECTIVES

A specific adjective describes a noun or pronoun. It gives a clear detail, such as a quality or an exact number.

Cracked lanterns swayed near doorways.

SPECIFIC ADVERBS

A specific adverb adds a clear detail to a verb, adjective, or another adverb. It can tell how, when, where, or how much.

Before sunrise, robins chirped softly.

1 SORT

8 items

For each numbered sentence, circle the tag for the quoted word, then choose two items and explain how the word's job helped you sort it.

1. “Jagged” cliffs surrounded a lake.

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

2. An actor bowed “gracefully.”

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

3. A detective searched “carefully.”

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

4. “Waterproof” maps lay on a table.

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

5. “Golden” leaves covered a sidewalk.

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

6. A “narrow” path curved downhill.

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

7. A fox crept “silently.”

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

8. “Twelve” students entered a lab.

ADJECTIVE

ADVERB

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write two new sentences, one with a specific adjective and one with a specific adverb.

ADJECTIVE _____

ADVERB _____

CHALLENGE

Write one sentence with both a specific adjective and a specific adverb. Put brackets around the adjective and parentheses around the adverb.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	"Jagged" cliffs surrounded a lake.	ADJECTIVE	Jagged describes the noun cliffs.
2	An actor bowed "gracefully."	ADVERB	Gracefully modifies the verb bowed.
3	A detective searched "carefully."	ADVERB	Carefully modifies the verb searched.
4	"Waterproof" maps lay on a table.	ADJECTIVE	Waterproof describes the noun maps.
5	"Golden" leaves covered a sidewalk.	ADJECTIVE	Golden describes the noun leaves.
6	A "narrow" path curved downhill.	ADJECTIVE	Narrow describes the noun path.
7	A fox crept "silently."	ADVERB	Silently modifies the verb crept.
8	"Twelve" students entered a lab.	ADJECTIVE	Twelve describes the noun students and tells how many.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **ADJECTIVE:** The brittle shell cracked.
- **ADVERB:** The river rushed downstream.

Challenge: The [shimmering] stars glowed (brightly).

Items 1, 4, 5, 6, and 8 are adjectives. Items 2, 3, and 7 are adverbs. For Part 2, students should name the noun described or the verb modified.