

# Fronted Adverbials

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**Grammarsaurus**

# What is a fronted adverbial?

A **fronted** adverbial is an adverbial which comes at the **front** of the sentence.

*Example:*

The dog **wagged** his tail. (wagged is the verb)

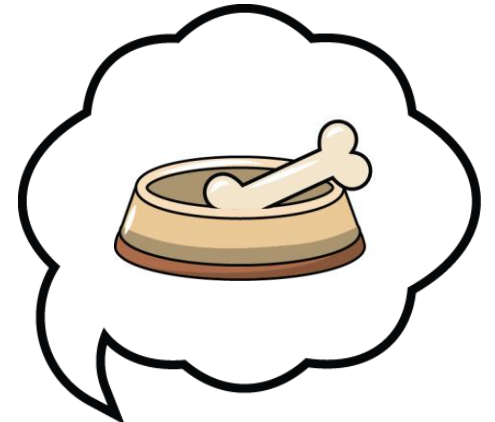
**Happily**, the dog **wagged** his tail. (How)

**When it was dinner time**, the dog **wagged** his tail. (When)

**In the park**, the dog **wagged** his tail. (Where)

**Despite the fact he was lost**, the dog **wagged** his tail. (Why)

Have you noticed  
how fronted  
adverbials are  
punctuated?



# Commas for fronted adverbials

After a fronted adverbial, you should always use a comma. This clearly separates the main clause from the fronted adverbial.

*Where should the comma go in these examples?*

It may be easier to identify the verb first, then you can see how, when or where the verb is happening.

Under the sea the mermaids danced about.

Anxiously the children hid beneath the bushes.

Slowly but surely he clambered up the rope.

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# Using fronted adverbials

You can use **TRaMP** to help you remember the different types of fronted adverbial.



# Examples of fronted adverbials

## TRAMP

TIME	REASON	MANNER	PLACE
In the morning Before long Eventually In the blink of an eye Fortnightly Next year	Because Due to the fact As a result of While Hence Consequently	Bravely Mysteriously Anxiously Suddenly As quick as a flash Without a sound	Above the clouds Below the sea Upstairs Behind the fence Inside the box Far away

# Using fronted adverbials

Can you match the correct fronted adverbial to the sentence so it makes sense?

Fronted adverbials	Main clause
In the distance,	he went to play with his friends.
After lunch,	she tiptoed across the room.
Bravely,	Sarah could see the sea.
Without a sound,	the soldier battled on.

# Using fronted adverbials

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Can you add a main clause after this fronted adverbial?  
How many different endings can you think of?

In the dead of night, \_\_\_\_\_





# Using fronted adverbials

Can you use a fronted adverbial to complete these sentences:

\_\_\_\_\_, the creature climbed to the top of the castle walls.

\_\_\_\_\_, she waited for the number 10 bus.

\_\_\_\_\_, Sam had vanished!

\_\_\_\_\_, the rocket landed on the dusty surface.