



Confusing Adjectives and Adverbs

- **No and Not** *Not* is an adverb that negates a verb or an adjective. *No* is an adjective and therefore modifies a noun

Examples: She is *not* tired. (*not* negates the predicate adjective *tired*) Juan does *not* want to go out with Carmen. (*not* negates the verb *does want*) He has *no* money. (*no* modifies the noun *money*)

- **Too and Very** *Too* indicates excess. *Very* indicates degree and means extremely. When *very* is used as an adjective it means "the exact one." Both can be used as adjectives or adverbs. When used as adverbs they intensify adjectives or adverbs. *Very* and *too* are not interchangeable.

Examples: There is *too* much snow on the car! (*too* as an adverb modifies the adjective *much* and means "an excess of snow") He was *too* fat to sit in the airplane seat. (*too* is an adjective modifying *fat*) She has the *very* book that I needed for my paper. (*very* as an adjective modifying *book* and means "this exact book") The test was *very* difficult. (*very* as an adverb modifies the adjective *difficult*)

- **Few and A Few** *Few* connotes hardly any. *A few* is the same as some. Both are adjectives used with countable plural nouns or can be nouns themselves.

Examples: There are *few* movies that I want to see this year. (*few* is an adjective modifying *movies* meaning "not many") There are *a few* movies that I want to see this year. (*a few* is an adjective modifying *movies* meaning "some") Many are called but *few* are chosen. (*few* is a noun. In reality the sentence is saying "Few [people] are chosen" with *people* being unstated but understood)