

Whenever you have to write a text to deal with a more creative task or assignment, there are other, equally valid, solutions other than the ones below. However, the solutions given here include the most important points and characteristics and should help you to evaluate and improve your own texts.

Basic 4: Deciding on adjective or adverb (p. 121)

1 Look at the words in bold type and underline those that are adverbs (not adjectives).

It was a **lovely** day and everyone in the park seemed **extremely** friendly. I had been studying **hard** for my **ghastly** exams, had gone to bed **late** and hadn't slept **well**, so I **probably** looked **incredibly** pale and **unhealthy** as I wandered **slowly** among the people jogging or taking their **daily** walk. But I didn't **particularly** care. I felt **good**.

2 Decide which of the two options in brackets is correct and write it in.

- What an absolutely stunning dress! (absolute, absolutely) Mary always dresses beautifully, doesn't she? (beautiful, beautifully) Of course, she's got such a highly developed sense of style. (high, highly)
- The class is awfully noisy this morning. (awful, awfully) Some of them look pretty mean too. (pretty, prettily) I'd better go easy on them. (easy, easily) You know, not do anything too hard. (hard, hardly)
- I read the menu carefully. (careful, carefully) The three-course meal sounded fine. (fine, finely) It was ridiculously cheap. (ridiculous, ridiculously) But it still tasted good. (good, well)

3 Decide whether you need an adjective or an adverb in the simple, comparative, or superlative forms.

- Of all the candidates, Barack Obama was the one who spoke most convincingly (convincing).
- John McCain was older than Obama, but he wasn't the (old) oldest candidate running.
- John McCain did poorly (poor) in the debates, and his campaign reacted erratically (erratic) to new developments.
- News travels more slowly (slow) via traditional media than it does over the Internet.
- Candidates can sound good (good) in a TV interview – until it gets repeated too often on YouTube!
- I'd say Hillary Clinton was the most successful (successful) woman ever to run for president.
- Obama's supporters felt certain (certain) of victory so he cautioned them about overconfidence.

4 Explain the differences in meaning.

- working hard = doing a lot of work
hardly working = not working very much at all
- a most interesting book = it is really very interesting
a book that is mostly interesting = quite a lot of it is interesting