

# Crib Sheet for Parents

## What are fronted adverbials?

An **adverbial** is a **word or phrase that has been used like an adverb** to add detail or further information to a verb. (An easy way to remember what an adverb is: it **adds** to the **verb**.)

Adverbials are used to explain how, where or when something happened; they are like adverbs made up of more than one word.

For example:

*We met by the train station.*

*He stood and waited under the clock.*

*The rabbit hopped as fast as it could.*

*She danced all night long.*

*He ate his breakfast before the sun came up.*

In the sentences above, the verbs are in pink and the adverbials are in blue.

**'Fronted' adverbials are 'fronted' because they have been moved to the front of the sentence, before the verb.** In other words, fronted adverbials are words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence, used to describe the action that follows.

A comma is normally used after an adverbial (but there are plenty of exceptions to this rule).

For example:

*Before the sun came up, he ate his breakfast.*

*All night long, she danced.*

*As fast as he could, the rabbit hopped.*

*Under the clock, he stood and waited.*

*By the train station, we met.*

The fronted adverbials in these sentences are in blue.