Position of focusing adverbs

Focusing adverbs point to one part of a clause. Examples are: also, just, even, mostly, mainly, either, neither, or, nor

Focusing adverbs usually go in mid-position with the verb.

Study the patterns given below.

**Auxiliary verb + adverb + other verb**

We are **only** going for two days.

She has **just** arrived.

**Is / am / are / was / were + adverb**

He is my Dad, but he is **also** my friend.

The people at the meeting were **mainly** teachers.

**Adverb + other verb**

She **just** needs some practice.

Focusing adverbs can go directly before the words they modify.

Notice how the meaning of the sentence changes with a change in the position of the adverb **only**.

**Only David** may borrow the car. (David and nobody else may borrow the car.)

David may **only borrow** the car. (David may borrow the car, but he can do nothing else.)

David may borrow the **only car**. (David may borrow the only car there is.)

The focusing adverbs **too** and **as well** usually go in end position.

She not only sings; she plays the piano **too**. (NOT ... she too plays the piano.)

We have meetings on Sundays **as well**. (NOT We have as well meetings on Sundays.)