Adverbs which are used for asking questions are called **interrogative adverbs**. There are several different kinds of interrogative adverbs.

**Interrogative Adverbs of Time**

Examples are: *when, how long, how early, how soon* etc.

- **When** will you finish this job?
- **How long** will you stay here?
- **How often** do you visit them?
- **How soon** can you begin work?

**Interrogative adverbs of Place**

- **Where** do you live?
- **Where** has she come from?
- **Where** can I find him?

**Interrogative adverbs of number**

Examples are: *how many, how often, how much*

- **How many** students are there in the class?
- **How often** does the committee meet?

**Interrogative adverb of manner**

Examples are: *how*

- **How** did you arrive at the conclusion?
- **How** are you doing?
- **How** was the experience?
- **How** did you do it?

**Interrogative adverbs of degree or quantity**

Examples are: *how much, how far, how high* etc.

- **How much** did you pay?
- **How far** can you go?
- **How much** more do you want?

**Interrogative adverbs of reason**
**Interrogative and Relative Adverbs**

Example: **why**

*Why* are you crying?  
*Why* did you quit?  
*Why* do you hate her?  
*Why* do you want to go there?

**Relative Adverbs**

Read the sentence given below.

Do you know the place where the meeting will be held?

In the sentence given above, **where** is an adverb as it modifies the verb **will be held**. It is also a relative as it connects the two clauses of the sentence and at the same time refers back to its antecedent **place**. **Where** is therefore called a **relative adverb**. A relative adverb connects an adjective clause to the main clause.

That was the reason **why** I decided to resign.

Here **why** is an adverb as it modifies the verb **decided to resign**. It is also a relative as it connects the two clauses of the sentence and at the same time refers back to its antecedent **reason**. **Why** is therefore called a relative adverb because it connects the adjective clause ‘why I decided to resign’ to the main clause ‘that was the reason’.

More examples are given below.

This is the place **where** the murder was committed.

**Notes:**

The relative adverb **when** can be replaced by **in which/on which**; **where** can be replaced by **in which/at which**; **why** can be replaced by **for which**.

I don’t know the place **where** he lives. (= I don’t know the place **at which** he lives.)

I don’t know the reason **why** she hates me. (= I don’t know the reason **for which** she hates me.)

I still remember the day **when** he returned home. (= I still remember the day **on which** he returned home.)