

**IMPORTANT** Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.

### 1. Watch an animation of a poem

- Watch *The Highwayman PowerPoint* or, if this is not possible, watch this video animation:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ryu1JZiSbHo>
- Follow the words of the poem as you watch.  
(You may have read this poem in a lesson a few weeks ago – if so, see which parts you remember).

### 2. Make notes about the characters

- Use the *Character Notes* to make notes about three of the characters in the poem. Include information that you are sure about and things that you guess or imagine about them.
- Which of these three characters would you say is most tragic? Which has the worst situation? Give reasons for your choice.

### 3. Revise and practise adverbials

- Use the *PowerPoint on adverbs and adverbials*. If this is not possible, remind yourself using the *Revision Card*.
- Complete *Adverbials Practice*.

Well done! Tell a grown-up what you have said about the characters and then share your adverbial answers with them.

### Try the Fun-Time Extra

- Can you write five sentences that include really descriptive adverbials about your day today? Next try writing five sentences with really descriptive adverbials about the best day that you could imagine?

*The Highwayman*  
By Alfred Noyes

The wind was a torrent of darkness among the gusty trees,  
The moon was a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas,  
The road was a ribbon of moonlight, over the purple moor,  
And the highwayman came riding –  
Riding – riding –  
The highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door.

II

He'd a French cocked-hat on his forehead, a bunch of lace at his chin,  
A coat of the claret velvet, and breeches of brown doe-skin;  
They fitted with never a wrinkle: his boots were up to the thigh!  
And he rode with a jewelled twinkle,  
His pistol butts a-twinkle,  
His rapier hilt a-twinkle, under the jewelled sky.

III

Over the cobbles he clattered and clashed in the dark inn-yard,  
He tapped with his whip on the shutters, but all was locked and barred;  
He whistled a tune to the window, and who should be waiting there  
But the landlord's black-eyed daughter,  
Bess, the landlord's daughter,  
Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long black hair.

IV

And dark in the old inn-yard a stable-wicket creaked  
Where Tim the ostler listened; his face was white and peaked;  
His eyes were hollows of madness, his hair like mouldy hay,  
But he loved the landlord's daughter,  
The landlord's red-lipped daughter,  
Dumb as a dog he listened, and he heard the robber say –

V

'One kiss, my bonny sweetheart, I'm after a prize to-night,  
But I shall be back with the yellow gold before the morning light;  
Yet, if they press me sharply, and harry me through the day,  
Then look for me by moonlight,  
Watch for me by moonlight,  
I'll come to thee by moonlight, though hell should bar the way.'

VI

He rose upright in the stirrups; he scarce could reach her hand,  
But she loosened her hair i' the casement! His face burnt like a brand  
As the black cascade of perfume came tumbling over his breast;  
And he kissed its waves in the moonlight,  
(Oh, sweet black waves in the moonlight!)  
Then he tugged at his rein in the moonlight, and galloped away to the West.

## VII

He did not come in the dawning; he did not come at noon;  
And out o' the tawny sunset, before the rise o' the moon,  
When the road was a gipsy's ribbon, looping the purple moor,  
A red-coat troop came marching-  
Marching-marching-  
King George's men came marching, up to the old inn-door.

## VIII

They said no word to the landlord, they drank his ale instead,  
But they gagged his daughter, and bound her, to the foot of her narrow bed;  
Two of them knelt at her casement, with muskets at their side!  
There was death at every window;  
And hell at one dark window;  
For Bess could see, through the casement, the road that he would ride.

## IX

They had tied her up to attention, with many a sniggering jest;  
They bound a musket beside her, with the muzzle beneath her breast!  
'Now, keep good watch!' and they kissed her.  
She heard the dead man say-  
Look for me by moonlight;  
Watch for me by moonlight;  
I'll come to thee by moonlight, though hell should bar the way!

## X

She twisted her hands behind her; but all the knots held good!  
She writhed her hands till her fingers were wet with sweat or blood!  
They stretched and strained in the darkness, and the hours crawled by like years,  
Till, now, on the stroke of midnight,  
Cold, on the stroke of midnight,  
The tip of one finger touched it! The trigger at least was hers!

## XI

The tip of one finger touched it; she strove no more for the rest!  
Up, she stood up to attention, with the muzzle beneath her breast,  
She would not risk their hearing; she would not strive again;  
For the road lay bare in the moonlight;  
Blank and bare in the moonlight;  
And the blood of her veins in the moonlight throbbed to her love's refrain.

## XII

Tlot-tlot; tlot-tlot! Had they heard it? The horse-hoofs ringing clear;  
Tlot-tlot; tlot-tlot, in the distance? Were they deaf that they did not hear?  
Down the ribbon of moonlight, over the brow of the hill,  
The highwayman came riding,  
Riding, riding!  
The red-coats looked to their priming! She stood up straight and still.

XIII

Tlot-tlot, in the frosty silence! Tlot-tlot, in the echoing night!  
Nearer he came and nearer! Her face was like a light!  
Her eyes grew wide for a moment; she drew one last deep breath,  
Then her finger moved in the moonlight,  
Her musket shattered the moonlight,  
Shattered her breast in the moonlight and warned him - with her death.

XIX

He turned; he spurred to the West; he did not know who stood  
Bowed, with her head o'er the musket, drenched with her own red blood!  
Not till the dawn he heard it, his face grew grey to hear  
How Bess, the landlord's daughter,  
The landlord's black-eyed daughter,  
Had watched for her love in the moonlight, and died in the darkness there.

XX

Back, he spurred like a madman, shouting a curse to the sky,  
With the white road smoking behind him and his rapier brandished high!  
Blood-red were his spurs i' the golden noon; wine-red was his velvet coat,  
When they shot him down on the highway,  
Down like a dog on the highway,  
And he lay in his blood on the highway, with the bunch of lace at his throat.

XXI

And still of a winter's night, they say, when the wind is in the trees,  
When the moon is a ghostly galleon tossed upon cloudy seas,  
When the road is a ribbon of moonlight over the purple moor,  
A highwayman comes riding –  
Riding – riding –  
A highwayman comes riding, up to the old inn-door.

XXII

Over the cobbles he clatters and clangs in the dark inn-yard,  
And he taps with his whip on the shutters, but all is locked and barred;  
He whistles a tune to the window, and who should be waiting there  
But the landlord's black-eyed daughter,  
Bess, the landlord's daughter,  
Plaiting a dark red love-knot into her long black hair.

*by Alfred Noyes*

*Note the use of tlot, tlot (instead of clip, clop as used in the Animated Tale) in the original text*

Character Notes

**Bess**



**Tim the Ostler**



**Highwayman**



## Adverbials Revision Card

### ADVERBIAL

An **adverbial** is a word, phrase or clause which acts as an adverb and is used to modify a verb or (less commonly) an adjective.



*Just then, the highwayman came riding, up to the old inn-door*

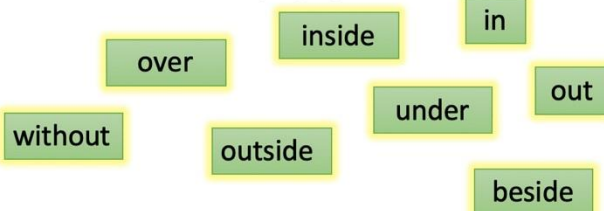
### Adverbials can be...

### Prepositional phrases

These are phrases which start with a **preposition**

They can be used to modify a verb.

#### Example prepositions



*The girl waited, **in the darkness**, and then looked **out of the window**.*

**in the darkness** modifies the verb 'waited'.

What does **out of the window** modify?

### Adverbials can be...

### Noun phrases

Here are two expanded noun phrases which are used to modify the verb.

*King George's men marched **that night**.*

**that night** modifies the verb 'marched'.

***Muskets ready**, the soldiers waited **quietly**.*

**Muskets ready** modifies the verb 'waited'. (**quietly** also modifies the verb 'waited'.)

## Adverbials Practice

Read each sentence and talk to your partner. Can you spot the adverbials?  
Highlight these in:



- **green** if they tell you HOW the action was done or event occurred.
- **yellow** if they tell you WHERE it happened or occurred.
- **blue** if they tell you WHEN

*HINT – underline the main clause to help you spot the adverbials – the main clause will not be part of the adverbials. The first one is underlined as an example.*

1. Under the moonlit, cloud-swept sky, the highwayman came galloping across the moor.
2. Silhouettes of trees flailed their bent arms in the depths of the wood.
3. They cast long shadows awkwardly on the rain-soaked ground.
4. Owls and bats crossed the woods well after midnight.
5. Without a sound, the highwayman's horse padded across the low dark undergrowth.
6. She made her way through the earthy, damp ferns.
7. The highwayman's heart filled him with longing for his girl.
8. At long last, the hooves of his proud, sleek mare clattered like a guilty secret on the harsh grey cobblestones.

*Now rewrite some of these sentences changing the meaning by changing the adverbials.  
Check your sentences for commas, which make the meaning clear.*