



EAST DONCASTER
Secondary College

VCE English Unit 1

The Craft of Writing

Adjectives and adverbs - do they help?

1. Insert adjectives or adverbs into the following description - as many as you can think of! Go mad! Use a thesaurus!

I looked under the house and felt sick. There was an animal trapped in a piece of metal. I bent down and looked. The animal , a possum, was screaming. When it saw me it hissed. This was going to be difficult. It's eyes showed fear, its claws and teeth showed anger. I thought for a moment; then went to the car. I had a rug in the boot. I took it out and threw it over the possum. The blanket covered it and I was able to pick up the bundle and put it in the boot. I was only a couple of minutes from the RSPCA animal shelter, and I drove there. The woman there seemed to know what to do. She took the animal away and reassured me that it would be all right. I walked back to the car and went home. What a day!

Example: I looked carefully, suspiciously, quietly under the derelict house...

2. Review what you've done. Would the description be better if you took out some of the words you have put in?
3. Swap your paragraph with another group. Which adjectives of adverbs would you keep in the paragraph?

Adjective: a word that describes or adds to the meaning of a noun: the **black** cat, the **neat** room, the **hot** coffee

Adverb: Tells how, when, where or why. Usually end in **-ly**. It adds to the meaning of a verb (she runs **quickly**), or another adverb (she runs **extremely** quickly), or an adjective (it was an **excruciatingly** painful blow).