

**Grammar
in Context**

In the sentence "None of these funny-looking relatives of pigeons and doves exist today" (lines 2-3 on page 105), the author uses the adjective "funny-looking" to describe "relatives." An **adjective** is a word that modifies a noun or a pronoun. Adjectives can appear either before or after the noun or pronoun. They answer questions such as *What kind? How*

many? How much? and Which one? "Dutch" and "Portuguese" in the sentence on lines 22-25 are *proper adjectives*. The indefinite articles *a* and *an* are also adjectives; so is the definite article *the*. An adjective may appear after a linking verb, as "extinct" does in the sentence "In fact, dodos have been extinct for over three centuries" (lines 3-5).

Do not confuse adjectives with **adverbs**, which modify verbs, adjectives, other adverbs, and prepositional phrases (as in "almost to the end"). Adverbs can also modify complete sentences and subordinate clauses. They tell *how, when, where, to what extent, in what manner, or how much*. Negatives, such as *not, never, and hardly* are adverbs, too, as in the sentence "They should never have stolen that dodo."

When you need to decide whether to use an adjective or an adverb, use what you have learned thus far plus the following ideas and rules: (1) Don't count on the *-ly* ending to identify a modifier as an adverb; words like *friendly* and *elderly* are adjectives. (2) *Good* and *bad* are always adjectives. (3) *Badly* and *well* are adverbs, although *well* can be used as an adjective to describe a person's health.

Choose the modifier in parentheses that correctly completes each sentence, and write it on the line provided.

1. My puppy is (**particular, particularly**) trusting, just as the dodo was.

2. The scientists searched the island (**careful, carefully**) for nests.

3. The dodo stews that the islanders ate tasted (**delicious, deliciously**).

4. I felt (**anxious, anxiously**) as we approached the iguanas and other wild creatures on the island.

5. The dodo did not make enemies (**easy, easily**).

6. While the flightless bird was (**happy, happily**) going about its business, the predator watched it intently from behind the bush.

7. I (**sure, surely**) would have loved to have seen a dodo.

8. The dodo was trusting and docile, and sailors treated it (**bad, badly**).
