A. Explain the difference in meaning between the following sentences:

1. a. This one is rather expensive, too.
   b. This one is rather too expensive.

   *a-* This one is also quite expensive. (too = också)
   *b-* This one costs a bit more than I am willing to spend. (too = för mycket)

2. a. It was all most interesting. §6.2.6
   b. It was almost interesting.

   *a-* All of it was very interesting. (The absolute superlative means very.)
   *b-* It was not quite interesting, but nearly.

3. a. He didn’t die happily.
   b. He didn’t die, happily.

   *a-* He was not happy when he died. (happily is an advl/manner)
   *b-* I’m glad that he didn’t die. (happily is a modal advl: it modifies the entire clause)

4. a. He hardly worked all day.
   b. He worked hard all day.

   *a-* He did very little work all day. (hardly = knappast)
   *b-* He worked a lot all day. (hard = hårt)

B. Choose the correct form in the sentences below. Mark the word that is modified by the adjective/adverb, and include the word classes for the two words as in sentence 1:

1. N Adj
   He had a voice that sounded so funny/funnily.

   After a verb of perception, an adjective is used. Note: the adjective does not modify the verb! It modifies the noun/pronoun (here, voice).

   After a verb of perception, the adjective (= word class) functions as a subject predicative (= sentence constituent). We know we have a predicative in this clause because we can replace the verb with an equal sign: the voice = funny.

2. V Adv
   The boy turned helpless/helplessly to Robert.

   The adverb (= word class) functions as an adverbial of manner (= sentence constituent) in this clause. (In what way did he turn? – Helplessly.)
3. He looked her stern/sternly in the face.

In this instance, looked is not a verb of perception! It is an action verb.
Note: look = se ut is a verb of perception and takes an adjective: He looked stern.
look = titta is an action verb and takes an adverb: He looked sternly at us.

The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause. (In what way did he look at her? – Sternly.)

4. The flowers are really fantastic/fantastically decorative.

The adverb functions as an adverbial of degree in this clause. (How decorative? – Fantastically decorative.)

5. The sight made Jack feel uneasy/uneasily.

After a verb of perception, an adjective is used. Note: the adjective does not modify the verb! It modifies the noun/pronoun (here, Jack).

After a verb of perception, the adjective functions as a subject predicative. We know we have a predicative in this clause because we can replace the verb with an equal sign: Jack = uneasy.

Note: feel = kännas sig is a verb of perception and takes an adjective: The baby felt soft.
feel = kännas på is an action verb and takes an adverb: The baby felt it softly.

6. Some of them might possible/possibly be dead, he thought.

The adverb functions as a modal adverbial which modifies the entire clause.

7. We should have gone into this more thorough/thoroughly.

The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause.
8. The lady talked gay/gaily of art and literature.

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause.*

9. They were approached by an unusual/unusually tall man.

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of degree in this clause. (*'unusual, tall man’ is also OK; in that case, ‘unusual’ modifies the noun ‘man’)*

10. Quite a few of the passengers were bad/badly bruised. (mörbultad)

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of degree in this clause.*

11. Our houses stand close/closely together.

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of place in this clause. Remember that the adverbs deep/high/wide/close have a **concrete** meaning, whereas the adverbs deeply/highly/widely/closely have an **abstract** meaning – so ‘closely’ cannot be used in this sentence. (Deep/high/wide/close can also be adjectives, of course – but not in this sentence.)*

12. They walked deep/deeply into the woods. (‘into the woods’ is a prepositional phrase which functions as an adverbial)

*Alternative solution:*

*They walked deep into the woods.***

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of place in this clause. Deep/high/wide/close: See above.*

13. Don’t shout so loud/loudly!

*The adverb (either one is fine) functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause.*
14. He didn’t think he was treated fairly.

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause.*

15. Somehow it all feels wrong/wrongly.

*After a verb of perception, an adjective is used. Note: the adjective does not modify the verb! It modifies the noun/pronoun (here, it).*

*After a verb of perception, the adjective functions as a subject predicative. We know we have a predicative in this clause because we can replace the verb with an equal sign: it = wrong.*

*Note: feel = känna sig is a verb of perception and takes an adjective: The baby felt soft. feel = känna på is an action verb and takes an adverb: The baby felt it softly.*

16. We all find him very careful/carefully.

*The adjective modifies the pronoun him.*

*The adjective functions as an object predicative in this clause. (him = careful)*

17. He behaved friendly/in a friendly manner towards me.

*Friendly is always an adjective, and it cannot be made into an adverb: *friendlily* doesn’t exist! If you need an adverbial, you must re-structure the phrase: — in a friendly manner (adverbial of manner, consisting of a prepositional phrase with an adjective).*

18. The word is spelt wrong/wrongly.

*The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner in this clause.*

*Note: “The word is wrongly spelt.”
Adv  Adj
19. Why are you so terrible/terribly impatient?

The adverb functions as an adverbial of degree in this clause.

20. Did you screw it on tight/tightly?

There are three possible solutions to this one, as tight can be both an adjective and an adverb and the adverb has two forms:

Prn   Adj
• Did you screw it on tight?
   The adjective functions as a subject predicative. (it = tight)

V     Adv
• Did you screw it on tight?
   The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner.

V     Adv
• Did you screw it on tightly?
   The adverb functions as an adverbial of manner.

C. Determine whether the underlined expression is a direct object or a subject predicative:

1. a. She felt a sharp pain.   Od
   b. She felt a complete idiot. pr/s

2. a. John grew a beard.   Od
   b. John grew angry.   pr/s

3. a. We are keeping calm.   pr/s
   b. We are keeping the jewellery.   Od

A subject predicative provides information about the subject in the clause. You know you have a subject predicative when you can replace the verb with an equal sign:
- she = a complete idiot
- John = angry
- we = calm

A direct object does not give information about the subject. Instead, it introduces something new. In a clause where there is a direct object, there are two different things:
- ‘she’ and ‘a sharp pain’
- ‘John’ and ‘a beard’ (John is not the same as his beard)
- ‘we’ and ‘the jewellery’
D. Explain why an adjective is used in the (a) sentences and an adverb in the (b) sentences:

1.  a. She told him she didn’t feel well.  
    b. I want to start playing well again, he said. §§6.1; 7.1

   a- Adjectives are used after verbs of perception, here feel. The adjective modifies the pronoun she. (‘Well’ is a subject predicative as it describes the subject: she = not well)
   b- Adverbs modify verbs, here playing. (‘Well’ = advl/manner)

2. a. Irving’s case has received an unusual amount of publicity.  
    b. Britain has been unusually fortunate in that as an island nation, we have for centuries rarely had to think about how to define ourselves.

   a- Adjectives modify nouns, here amount. (‘Unusual’ = mod.adj.)
   b- Adverbs modify adjectives, here, fortunate. (‘Unusually’ = advl/degree)

3. a. I thought Kevin, who was visiting me for two weeks, might find it interesting.  
    b. Interestingly, Jodie Foster did survive being a child star.

   a- Adjectives modify pronouns (here, it). (‘Interesting’ is an object predicative as it describes the object: it = interesting)
   b- Adverbs modify the entire clause. (‘Interestingly’ = modal advl)

Remember:
An adjective can be two things: it can be an adjectival modifier or a predicative.

E. Most of the following sentences contain errors that are often made. Correct the sentences that are wrong.

1. The absurd thing was that nobody believed him. §6.4.3; 6.4.3.2
   Adjectives can normally only be nominalised (i.e. used as nouns) when they have a generic meaning (i.e. when they refer to all of something). Otherwise, a noun must be added. This is difficult for Swedish learners because in Swedish, adjectives can be nominalised even when they refer to something or someone specific: Det absurda är att...

2. We asked the sick man if he felt any better. §6.4.3; 6.4.3.1
   See question (1).

3. I prefer white sugar to brown one. §6.4.3.3, Svartvik/Sager §382A
   One/ones cannot be used in place of an uncountable noun.

4. These taxes are not the only ones we have to pay. §6.4.3.3
   One/ones are used in place of countable nouns – always referring back to something already mentioned.

5. Mary borrowed John’s dictionary because she had forgotten to bring her own one. §6.4.3.3
   One/ones cannot be used after own.
6. He speaks French quite **good**. §7.1
   → **well**
   *The adverb modifies the verb speaks. It is also possible to say: He speaks quite good French. (The adjective modifies the noun French.)*

7. I took the blind **man/boy** by the arm and led him across the street.
   *See question (1).*

8. The accused was led into the courtroom. §6.4.3.1
   *See question (1) – but remember that there is a small number of adjectives that can be nominalised, even when they refer to something/someone specific.*

9. My aunt won a **larger** sum of money on the pools. §6.2.6
   → **a fairly large** / **quite a large**
   *The absolute comparative (= ganska) is rare in English.*

10. I asked him to speak **slower**. §7.3
    *Marginally OK – but informal. Better: more slowly*

11. Today they played better than usual. **Correct!**
    *Adjectives are used in reduced clauses after as, if, than.*

12. He has a blue bike and I have a red **one**. §§6.4.3.3; 8.9.1
    *One/ones is used in place of countable nouns – always referring back to something.*

13. He has a **own** company. §8.3
    → **his own**
    or a company of his own

14. Is it worth to **install** such expensive equipment? §6.5
    → **installing**
    *The ing-form is used after the adjectives busy and worth. It is also possible to say Is it worth it to install…*

15. It is no use to **make** excuses now. §8.1.2.2
    → **making**
    *It is also possible to say There is… (common in AmE). But remember – don’t change what’s already correct!*

16. They made me to **do** it. §5.7.2
    *The bare infinitive is used after (the active form of) make.*