

## Intensifiers: Overview

**USE:** **Intensifiers** tell us how much (amount or degree) of an adjective or an adverb there is.

**FORM:** Common intensifiers, in order of degree are:

<b>Degree</b>	<b>Intensifier</b>	<b>Example Sentence</b>
<u>More than needed</u>	<i>too</i>	<i>She is too busy. She doesn't get any rest.</i>
<u>A large degree</u>	<i>very, extremely, really, so</i>	<i>She is very busy.</i>
<u>A moderate degree</u>	<i>quite, fairly</i>	<i>She is quite busy.</i>
<u>A small degree</u>	<i>a little, slightly, a bit</i>	<i>She is a little busy.</i>
<u>Less than needed</u>	<i>not enough</i>	<i>She is not busy enough. She is bored.</i>

All intensifiers, except **enough**, go before the adjective or adverb they are intensifying. **Enough** goes after the adjective or adverb.

*She is **extremely** good at skiing.*

*He is not good **enough** at skiing to go on the difficult hills.*

In a noun phrase, intensifiers go between the determiner and the adjective they are intensifying. **Quite** is an exception. It goes before the determiner.

*She is an **extremely** good skier.*

*She is **quite** a good skier.*

*Underline the INTENSIFIERS in the following paragraph. Make an arrow to indicate which ADJECTIVE or ADVERB they are intensifying.*

In the late 1800s, an Italian baker named Raffaele Esposito, created the world's first pizza. He wanted to make something very special for the visit of the Italian King and Queen. Raffaele took flat bread and put three toppings on it for the three colours of Italy. He put on tomatoes for their red colour, mozzarella cheese for its white colour and basil for its green colour. The king and queen really enjoyed the meal, and "pizza" was born!

Intermediate 3 – Exercise 37 – Intensifiers: Overview

Italian immigrants brought pizza to the United States, particularly New York and Chicago, in the early 1900's. American soldiers, who had tried pizza in Italy, were very happy to find small cafes back home that served it.

Today pizza has become extremely popular around the world. It is a fairly cheap meal for poor college students. It is somewhat nutritious. And it is quite versatile---you can put almost any topping on a pizza, depending on what you like to eat! Today's huge, multimillion dollar pizza chains are quite thankful that Raffaele Esposito decided to be patriotic, way back in the 1800's.

*Write sentences with true information, using the topic and INTENSIFIER given.*

1. Your favourite movie; extremely

---

2. A food you like; really

---

3. A food you don't like; not...enough

---

4. A song you don't like; too

---

5. Your best friend; a bit

---

6. A job you had; somewhat

---

7. A bad habit; fairly

---

8. Today's weather; a little

---

9. Your city; rather

---

10. Yourself; slightly

---