

# Adverbs of Frequency

Learning Stage



# Adverbs of frequency

**Adverbs of frequency describe how often an action happens.**

**Adverbs of frequency** answer the question: How often?

- ***I frequently** go to the bar after work for a drink.* (How often does this person go to the bar after work? He goes to the bar **frequently** (~70 – 80% of the time).
- ***She hardly ever** visits me.* (How often does she visit me? She visits me **hardly ever** (~5% of the time).

# Most common adverbs of frequency

**The degree of time is approximate.**

Adverb	Degree
<b>always</b>	100% of the time
<b>usually</b>	~80-90% of the time
<b>often</b>	~70-80% of the time
<b>sometimes</b>	~40-50% of the time

# Most common adverbs of frequency

**The degree of time is approximate.**

Adverb	Degree
<b>occasionally</b>	~20-30% of the time
<b>rarely</b>	~10-20% of the time
<b>hardly ever</b>	~1-5% of the time
<b>never</b>	0% of the time

# Placement rules

**Adverbs of frequency are placed at specific points in a sentence. Generally, we place them:**

Before the main verb:

- *I **always** eat breakfast before 7am.* (The adverb of frequency **always** is placed before the main verb eat.)

# Placement rules

**Adverbs of frequency are placed at specific points in a sentence. Generally, we place them:**

After the verb to be:

- *Tom is **usually** on time for meetings.* (The adverb of frequency **usually** is placed after the verb 'to be' is.)

# Placement rules

**Adverbs of frequency are placed at specific points in a sentence. Generally, we place them:**

Between the auxiliary verb and the main verb:

- *Rita has **never** visited Italy.* (The adverb of frequency **never** is placed between the auxiliary verb has and the main verb visited.)

# Placement rules

**Adverbs of frequency are placed at specific points in a sentence. Generally, we place them:**

After the modal verb:

- *You must **always** wear a seatbelt.* (The adverb of frequency **always** is placed after the modal verb must.)



# Placement rules

**Adverbs of frequency are placed at specific points in a sentence. Generally, we place them:**

After the subject in a question:

- *Why do you **hardly ever** come to visit me?* (The adverb of frequency **hardly ever** is placed after the subject you.)

# Common errors

Incorrect placement of the **adverb of frequency**:

- **Incorrect:** *She goes **always** to the gym.* ❌
- **Correct:** *She **always** goes to the gym.* ✅

## Common errors

Incorrect placement of the **adverb of frequency**:

- **Incorrect:** *Cindy **hardly ever** is on time for meetings.* ❌
- **Correct:** *Cindy is **hardly ever** on time for meetings.* ✅

# Common errors

Incorrect placement of the **adverb of frequency**:

- **Incorrect:** *James **never** has visited Japan.* ❌
- **Correct:** *James has never **visited** Japan.* ✅