

Still, yet and already

Any more / any longer / no longer

A

Still

We use **still** to say that a situation or action is continuing. It hasn't changed or stopped:

- ☐ It's 10 o'clock and Joe is **still** in bed.
- ☐ When I went to bed, Chris was **still** working.
- ☐ Do you **still** want to go away or have you changed your mind?

Still usually goes in the middle of the sentence with the verb (see Unit 110).

B

Any more / any longer / no longer

We use **not ... any more** or **not ... any longer** to say that a situation has changed. **Any more** and **any longer** go at the end of a sentence:

- ☐ Lucy **doesn't** work here **any more** (or **any longer**). She left last month.
(*not* Lucy doesn't still work here.)
- ☐ We used to be good friends, but we **aren't any more** (or **any longer**).

You can also use **no longer**. **No longer** goes in the middle of the sentence:

- ☐ Lucy **no longer** works here.

Note that we do not normally use **no more** in this way:

- ☐ We are **no longer** friends. (*not* We are no more friends.)

Compare **still** and **not ... any more**:

- ☐ Sally **still** works here, but Lucy **doesn't** work here **any more**.

C

Yet

Yet = until now. We use **yet** mainly in negative sentences (**He isn't** here **yet**) and questions (**Is he** here **yet**?). **Yet** shows that the speaker is expecting something to happen.

Yet usually goes at the end of a sentence:

- ☐ It's 10 o'clock and Joe **isn't** here **yet**.
- ☐ **Have** you **met** your new neighbours **yet**?
- ☐ 'Where are you going on holiday?' 'We **don't** know **yet**.'

We often use **yet** with the *present perfect* (**Have** you **met** ... **yet**?). See Unit 7D.

Compare **yet** and **still**:

- ☐ Mike lost his job six months ago and **is still** unemployed.
Mike lost his job six months ago and **hasn't found** another job **yet**.
- ☐ **Is it still** raining?
Has it stopped raining **yet**?

Still is also possible in *negative* sentences (before the negative):

- ☐ She said she would be here an hour ago and she **still hasn't** come.

This is similar to 'she hasn't come **yet**'. But **still ... not** shows a stronger feeling of surprise or impatience. Compare:

- ☐ I sent him an invitation last week. He **hasn't** replied **yet**. (but I expect he will reply soon)
- ☐ I sent him an invitation weeks ago and he **still hasn't** replied. (he should have replied before now)

D

Already

We use **already** to say that something happened sooner than expected. **Already** usually goes in the middle of a sentence (see Unit 110):

- ☐ 'What time is Sue leaving?' 'She has **already** left.' (= sooner than you expected)
- ☐ Shall I tell Joe what happened or does he **already** know?
- ☐ I've just had lunch and I'm **already** hungry.