Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency describe how often an action occurs. They help to provide clarity about the regularity of events and activities.

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Common Adverbs of Frequency

Here are some commonly used adverbs of frequency.

• Always (100% of the time)

Describes an action that occurs every single time.

Example: She always wakes up at 6 AM.

- Usage:
 - Use "always" for habits, routines, and actions that are consistent without exception.

Example: He always wears a seatbelt.

• Usually (80-90% of the time)

Indicates an action that happens most of the time.

Example: He usually walks to work.

- Usage:
 - Use "usually" for actions that occur more often than not, though there may be occasional exceptions.

Example: We usually have dinner at 7 PM.

• Frequently / Often (60-70% of the time)

Describes actions that happen quite regularly but not as consistently as "usually."

Examples:

Frequently: They frequently travel abroad.

Often: She often reads before bed.

- Usage:
 - Use "frequently" or "often" for actions that happen many times, though not necessarily every time.



• Example in a sentence: He often goes to the gym after work.

• Sometimes (40-50% of the time)

Indicates an action that happens occasionally but not regularly.

Example: She sometimes forgets her keys.

- Usage:
 - Use "sometimes" for actions that occur intermittently or without a regular pattern.
 - Example in a sentence: I sometimes eat breakfast at a café.

• Occasionally (20-30% of the time)

Describes actions that happen from time to time, less frequently than "sometimes."

Example: He occasionally travels for work.

- Usage:
 - Use "occasionally" for actions that happen infrequently.
 - Example in a sentence: We occasionally visit the countryside.

• Rarely (10-20% of the time)

Indicates actions that seldom occur.

Example: They rarely eat fast food.

- Usage:
 - Use "rarely" for actions that happen only a few times.
 - \circ $\;$ Example in a sentence: She rarely watches TV.

• Hardly ever / Seldom (5-10% of the time)

Describes actions that almost never happen.

Examples:

- Hardly ever: She hardly ever goes to the cinema.
- Seldom: He seldom drinks coffee.

- Usage:
 - Use "hardly ever" or "seldom" for actions that occur very infrequently.

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- \circ $\;$ Example in a sentence: We seldom go out during the week.
- Never (0% of the time)

Describes an action that does not happen at all.

Example: He never smokes.

- Usage:
 - Use "never" for actions that have no occurrence.
 - Example in a sentence: She never misses her yoga class.

Placement in Sentences

Adverbs of frequency can be placed in different parts of a sentence, depending on what they modify and the verb used.

- 1. Before the main verb (except "to be"):
 - He **always** eats breakfast.
 - They **often** go for a walk.
- 2. After the verb "to be":
 - She **is usually** very punctual.
 - They **are never** late for meetings.
- 3. Between an auxiliary verb and the main verb:
 - She has never been to France.
 - They **can always** rely on him.
- 4. At the beginning or end of a sentence (less common):
 - Occasionally, I go jogging in the morning.
 - I go jogging in the morning **occasionally**.

Examples and Usage

- 1. Always:
 - \circ $\;$ She **always** checks her email in the morning.
- 2. Usually:
 - He **usually** walks to work.
- 3. Frequently / Often:
 - They **frequently** travel for business.



- She often visits her grandparents.
- 4. Sometimes:
 - We **sometimes** go to the movies.
- 5. Occasionally:
 - He occasionally goes hiking on weekends.
- 6. Rarely / Seldom:
 - She **rarely** eats fast food.
 - They **seldom** go out during the week.
- 7. Hardly ever:
 - I hardly ever watch television.
- 8. Never:
 - He never smokes.

Special Notes

- 1. **Intensity and Precision**: Adverbs of frequency give different intensities and precisions to the frequency of actions.
 - "Always" indicates the action happens every time, while "never" indicates it happens no time at all.
- 2. **Negative Sentences**: In negative sentences, the placement of adverbs of frequency can vary slightly.
 - Example: I do **not usually** go to bed late.
 - Example: She **does not often** eat out.
- 3. **Questions**: When asking questions, adverbs of frequency usually come after the subject.
 - Example: Do you **often** travel for work?
 - Example: Does she **always** arrive on time?

Here's a conversation between two friends, Alex and Jamie, that incorporates adverbs of frequency:

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- Alex : Hi Jamie! How often do you go to the gym?
- Jamie : Hey Alex! I usually go to the gym three times a week. How about you?
- Alex : I hardly ever go to the gym. I prefer jogging in the park. Do you jog?
- Jamie : I sometimes jog on weekends, but not regularly. I mostly stick to my gym routine. Do you work out at home?
- Alex : Yes, I often do yoga at home. It's relaxing and helps me stay flexible. Do you ever try yoga?
- Jamie : I rarely do yoga, but I've been thinking about starting. Any tips for a beginner?
- Alex : Start with the basics and practice daily. Even if you only have a few minutes, it's better than nothing. How often do you take rest days?
- Jamie : I never skip my rest days. I take one or two rest days every week to let my muscles recover. What about you?
- Alex : I occasionally take a day off, but I try to stay active every day. It's all about finding a balance. Do you ever take fitness classes?
- Jamie : I sometimes join a spinning class at the gym, but I don't go every week. How about you?
- Alex : I rarely join fitness classes. I prefer working out on my own schedule. Do you eat healthy all the time?
- Jamie : I always try to eat healthy, but I do indulge in sweets occasionally. How about you?
- Alex : I usually eat healthy, but I never say no to a good dessert! Life's too short not to enjoy some treats.

This conversation uses various adverbs of frequency such as "usually," "hardly ever," "sometimes," "often," "rarely," "daily," "never," and "occasionally."