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Explore our latest gallery of EditorsPicks.Browse Editors' Favorites 1 I catch usually / usually catch the bus to school, but I am always / always am there by 7.30.2 Jane sometimes watches / watches sometimes TV after dinner and then she often reads / reads often a book before she goes to bed.3 My father goes always / always goes to bed very early because he is usually / usually is tired by 10 o'clock.4 I often am / am often at work before 9 o'clock and I don't finish usually / don't usually finish work until 7 o'clock. 2 sometimes watches, often reads3 always goes, is usually4 am often, don't usually finish 1 with their grandparents / lunch / usually / Sundays / they / have / on . They usually have lunch with their grandparents on Sundays. .2 always / on / am / / after my fitness class / tired / Fridays . .3 at / work / my manager / 7.30 / starts / in the morning / often . .4 at weekends / together / never / dinner / have / his / family . .5 on Sundays / you / what time / do / go to bed / usually? .6 gets / Paul / his / sometimes / in his maths tests / 100% . . 1. They usually have lunch with their grandparents on Sundays. / They usually have lunch on Sundays with their grandparents. / On Sundays they usually have lunch with their grandparents.2 I am always tired after my fitness class on Fridays. / I am always tired on Fridays after my fitness class. / On Fridays I am always tired after my fitness class.3 My manager often starts work at 7.30 in the morning.4 His family never have dinner together at weekends. / At weekends his family never have dinner together.5 What time do you usually go to bed on Sundays?6 Paul sometimes gets 100% in his Maths tests. 1 He gets up often at about 10 or 11.2 He goes to bed before 2.00 am never.3 He studies all sometimes night.4 He has usually black coffee and toast for breakfast.5 He is away for a week often or more.6 His windows are closed always, even in summer. 1 He often gets up at about 10 or 11.2 He never goes to bed before 2.00 am.3 He sometimes studies all night.4 He usually has black coffee and toast for breakfast.5 He is often away for a week or more.6 His windows are always closed, even in summer. 1 I miss a visit to my parents at the weekend 1 go and see them. (never, always)2 I'm late for work, but my boss gets angry. (sometimes, never)3 He comes here for a coffee at 10 o'clock hes late. (usually, never)4 We have lunch together and talk. Its good to see him. (often, always)5 They're away on holiday they're at home. (never, always) 1 I never miss a visit to my parents at the weekend 1 I always go and see them. 2 I'm sometimes late for work, but my boss never gets angry.3 He usually comes here for coffee at 10 o'clock hes never late.4 We often have lunch together and talk. Its always good to see him.5 They're never away on holiday they're always at home. MondayTuesdayWednesdayThursdayFridayPaul / have breakfastMy parents / eat in a restaurant / play tennisNatasha / late for workWe / watch TV in the evening 1 Paul usually has breakfast. 2 3 4 5 2 My parents sometimes eat in a restaurant.3 I often play tennis.4 Natashas never late for work.5 We always watch TV in the evening. 1 often / how / cinema / do / you / to / go / the / How often do you go to the cinema?2 to work / do / walk / you / usually / 3 always / are / tired / you / why / 4 you / where / usually / at weekends / go / do / 5 football / do / how / they / play / often / 6 often / is / late / for work / he / ? 7 me / you / never / do / write / to / why / ? 2 Do you usually walk to work?3 Why are you always tired?4 Where do you usually go at weekends?5 How often do they play football?6 Is he often late for work?7 Why do you never write to me? | For each of the following sentences, choose the number of the place in the sentence where the adverb of frequency (in parentheses) should go. Several options might be acceptable, but choose the most natural-sounding one.Example: She (1) washes (2) her fair with soap (3). (often) 1 BACK TO LIST OF EXERCISES Skip to content Automated page speed optimizations for fast site performance Always, usually, normally, generally, often, frequently, sometimes, occasionally, seldom, hardly ever, rarely, and never: These are all adverbs and they describe how frequently we do an activity or the frequency of habits. These are called Adverbs of Frequency or more specifically Adverbs of Indefinite Frequency. (Indefinite because it is NOT a specific frequency like three times a week, once a month, etc.)To help you understand when to use each adverb of frequency, I will add some approximate numbers (percentages of frequency or possibility of it happening) to give you a general idea of the frequency associated with each adverb.100% always90% usually80% normally / generally70% often / frequently50% sometimes30% occasionally10% seldom5% hardly ever / rarely0% never!IMPORTANT: The percentages that appear on the left are only approximate numbers to give you a general idea of the frequency associated with each adverb.Lets look at each adverb of frequency more in detail!ALWAYSWhen something happens 100% of the time, we use the adverb ALWAYS.I always brush my teeth at night.This means that without exception 100% of the time I will brush my teeth at night before going to bed.NEVERWhat is the opposite of ALWAYS? NEVER, which is 0% of the time.Vegetarians never eat meat.This means there is a zero percent possible of this happening. The frequency is zero.SOMETIMESWhat adverb do we use when something happens half the time and the other half of the time it doesn't happen?When something has about a 50% frequency of happening, we use the adverb SOMETIMES.I sometimes sing in the shower.This means half the time I am in the shower I sing, and half the time I don't sing I sometimes sing in the shower.HARDLY EVER / RARELYWhat can we use if we almost never do something? Its not zero percent but maybe 5% possibility of it happening. In this case we use the adverbs HARDLY EVER or RARELY. OR you can say They both mean the same thing. This means there is a VERY small chance of it happening but it is almost never.I hardly ever get angry. It usually only happens if I steal my chocolate from the fridge. Other than that, nothing else annoys me.Lets quickly look at the other adverbs of frequency.USUALLYUSUALLY is when something happens around 90% of the time. It is almost always. Yes, I live close to my place of work so I usually walk there.NORMALLY / GENERALLYNORMALLY or GENERALLY happen around 80% of the time.I normally get good marks.Yes, about 80% of the time my marks are good, the rest of the time they are excellent!OFTEN / FREQUENTLYWhen something has a frequency of around 70%, we use the adverbs OFTEN or FREQUENTLYOFTEN can be pronounced two ways:By pronouncing the T OFTEN orBy not pronouncing the T OFFEN (Never write Offten!)Both forms are correct and depend on where you live.Our examples of these adverbs are:I often read in bed at night,which is the same as: I frequently read in bed at night.The adverb OFTEN is more common than using the word FREQUENTLY.OCCASIONALLYThe adverb Occasionally is at about 30% frequency.I occasionally go to bed late.Yes, this happens on Friday and Saturday night. I occasionally go to bed late.SELDOMAnd the adverb Seldom is at around 10% frequency.I seldom add salt to my food.Which means it is not common or not often that I add salt.The adverbs Seldom, hardly ever, rarely, and never all have a negative meaning.Adverbs of Frequency Word OrderLets look at word order when we use adverbs of frequency.In general, the adverb of frequency goes before the main verb.The order is: Subject + Adverb + Main VerbLets look at this sentence If I want to let you know about the frequency I do this, the frequency that I read in bed, then I need to use an adverb.The main verb is READ, so we put the adverb before the verb READ.I often read in bed at night.Another example:Daniel always passes his exams.The main verb is PASSES so we put the adverb before it.They never speak Spanish in class because the main verb is SPEAK so the adverb goes before it.Adverbs of Frequency Word Order Lets look at word order when we use adverbs of frequency. When there is an auxiliary verb such as has, have, must, might, will, can, should, would, etc. followed by a main verb, the adverb goes between them. Subject + Auxiliary Verb + Adverb + Main Verb HAVE is the auxiliary verb and DONE is the main verb so we put the adverb of frequency in the middle.I have always done my homework.You can see it is the same rule as before, the adverb goes before the main verb. Just remember to put it after the auxiliary verb.Look at this sentence:Susan has lived in New York.HAS is the auxiliary verb and LIVED is the main verb so we put the adverb of frequency in the middle:Susan has always lived in New York.Look at this example:I have never eaten dog food.The adverb NEVER goes between the auxiliary verb HAVE and the main verb EATEN.I have never eaten dog food that I know of.Adverbs of Frequency Word Order with TO BEOf course in
English there is always an exception and this happens with the verb TO BE.When we want to use an adverb with the verb TO BE, then the order is:Subject + TO BE + AdverbLook at this sentence: AM is a form, or conjugation, of the verb TO BE so we put the adverb after it.I am normally busy at work.We cannot say I normally am busy at work. NO, this is NOT correct. Again, the adverb is after the form of To Be. The adverb SOMETIMES comes after the verb ARE which is a form of TO BE.Adverbs of frequency at the beginning of a sentenceWe have just seen the common position of adverbs of frequency within a sentence.But, it is also possible to place SOME adverbs at the beginning of a sentence. These adverbs include: usually, normally, frequently, generally, occasionally, and sometimes.Look at these examples:Occasionally I have pancakes for breakfast.OR you can put the adverb between the subject and main verb: occasionally have pancakes for breakfast.Both sentences are correct.Normally our English class is in the morning.Sometimes they take a bus to work.But be careful with always, hardly ever, seldom, rarely, and never. Do NOT put them at the beginning of the sentence.Always I get up early. This is NOT correct.We need to put ALWAYS before the main verb.I always get up early. (CORRECT!)The exception to this is when we are using ALWAYS or NEVER in the IMPERATIVE to give orders or instructions.We will see how about this in another lesson.Next activityYou might want to watch our other videos about Adverbs of DEFINITE frequency.Summary ChartI hope you found this English lesson about adverbs of frequency useful. If you did, please let other people know about us! Have an awesome day! Lesson tags: Adverbs, Adverbs of Frequency, Word Order Weather Vocabulary in English Adverbs of definite frequency - How often? Back to: English Course > Adverbs in English Share copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution You must give appropriate credit , provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in a way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. We use some adverbs to describe how frequently we do an activity.These are called adverbs of frequency and include: Frequency Adverb of Frequency Example Sentence 100% always I always go to bed before 11 p.m. 90% usually I usually have cereal for breakfast. 80% normally / generally I normally go to the gym. 70% often* / frequently I often surf the internet. 50% sometimes I sometimes forget my wife's birthday. 30% occasionally I occasionally eat junk food. 10% seldom I seldom read the newspaper. 5% hardly ever / rarely I hardly ever drink alcohol. 0% never I never swim in the sea. * Some people pronounce the "t" in often but many others do not. These are also known as Adverbs of INDEFINITE frequency as the exact frequency is not defined. The Position of the Adverb in a Sentence An adverb of frequency goes before a main verb (never! I have never read that book before. Yes, I do. (usually) Yes, I usually do. 1. I had wanted to see the ocean. (always)2. They do. (frequently)3. She is very friendly. (usually)4. They have the opportunity to travel. (seldom)5. I am at home in the mornings. (generally)6. He has. (always)7. We were given free transportation to the school. (frequently)8. Birds return to the place where they were born to build their nests. (often)9. Albattrosses are seen close to shore. (seldom)10. We would. (never)11. They follow the news. (rarely)12. Maple wood is used to make violins. (sometimes)Answers 2. Rewrite each of the following sentences, placing the adverb of frequency given in brackets in the middle position of the main clause. For example: Have you visited New York? (ever) Have you ever visited New York? I do not go to the library on the weekend. (always) I do not always go to the library on the weekend. 1. He did not arrive on time. (ever)2. Do you visit Boston? (often)3. Are they surprised at the results? (frequently)4. The children do not follow our instructions. (always)5. Do you wonder what will happen next? (sometimes)6. Did they find the missing information? (ever)7. We do not stay out after dark. (usually)8. The facts are not known. (generally)Answers 3. For each of the following sentences, place the adverbs given inbrackets in their most usual positions in the sentence. Placeconnecting adverbs in the beginning position, place adverbs of frequency in the middle position, and place adverbs of manner and adverbs of time in the end position. Adverbs of manner should precede adverbs of time. For example: They left. (early, usually) They usually left early. We proceeded. (cautiously, therefore) Therefore, we proceeded cautiously. We will review our options. (tomorrow, carefully) We will review our options carefully tomorrow. 1. We pick the flowers. (carefully, usually)2. She answers. (correctly, rarely)3. He is wrong. (however, seldom)4. We will attend the concert. (therefore, tonight)5. We found the hotel. (easily, nevertheless)6. They left. (quietly, this morning)7. She wins first prize. (always, furthermore)8. He finished. (late, often)9. We reached the station. (quickly, consequently)10. You speak. (loudly, never)11. We would have gone to the beach. (otherwise, yesterday)12. They worked. (quickly, today)13. I want to analyze the book. (carefully, sometime)14. We arrive. (early, sometimes)Answers 4. The following sentences do not contain verbs of motion. Complete each sentence by placing the adverbs and adverb phrases given in brackets in the end position, in the following order: Adverb of Manner Adverb of Location Adverb of Time Adverb of Purpose For example: The tickets sold. (at the box office, quickly, this afternoon) The tickets sold quickly at the box office this afternoon. I bought some film. (to photograph the parade, at the store, yesterday) I bought some film at the store yesterday to photograph the parade. 1. We ate. (at the restaurant, well, yesterday evening)2. They will be. (next month, on business, in France)3. The children whispered. (on Christmas Eve, excitedly, in front of the tree)4. We hung the picture. (on the wall, carefully)5. The birds twittered. (this morning, outside the window, loudly)6. The boys and girls waited. (for the parade to pass by, impatiently)7. We slept. (all afternoon, on the grass, soundly)8. The choir sang. (last week, beautifully, at the competition)9. We watched the skaters. (to determine who might win the competition, avidly, this morning)10. The moon shone. (over the water, long after the sun had set, brilliantly)Answers 5. For each of the following sentences, paying attention to whether or not the sentence contains a verb of motion, place the adverbs and adverb phrases given in brackets in the correct order in the end position of the sentence. For example: He lived. (for six years, happily, in Copenhagen) He lived happily in Copenhagen for six years. They returned. (from Holland, last week, unexpectedly) They returned from Holland unexpectedly last week. 1. They stood. (at the bus stop, for twenty minutes, patiently)2. We arrived. (here, last night, on foot)3. The young child walked. (by herself, this morning, to school)4. They were waiting. (at seven o'clock, eagerly, outside the fairgrounds)5. She arrived. (in a black limousine, at the hotel)6. Chickadees build their nests. (in dense evergreens, in the early spring, secretly)7. The waves crashed. (against the shore, loudly)8. I walked. (in the rain, to work, yesterday)9. He sat. (until the announcements were finished, on the edge of his chair, expectantly)10. We left. (this morning, home, in a hurry)11. She went. (by bus, downtown, today)12. They talked. (for an hour, animatedly, on the front lawn)Answers6. For each of the following sentences, fill in the blank with is or are, as appropriate. For example: There _____ one of the computations. Here _____ all of the results. There _____ his brother and sister.2. Here _____ several of her classmates.4. Here _____ both of the disks.5. There _____ a pair of shoes.6. Here _____ a few chocolates.7. Here _____ a box of eggs.8. There _____ two of the books.9. Here _____ another of the magazines.10. Here _____ some of the answers.12. Here _____ one of his brothers.12. Here _____ the essays.Answers 7. Rewrite the following sentences, replacing the underlined phrases with personal pronouns, and changing the word order as necessary. For example: Over the treetops sailed the kite. Over the treetops it sailed. Here comes our teacher. Here he comes.1. Up the stairs dashed the reporter.2. Onto the stage glided the ballerina.3. Here is the butter.4. There go the geese.5. To and fro rode the girl on the horse.6. Here come the children.7. High in the heavens shone the lights of a million stars.8. There goes the train.9. Into the hotel darted the boy.10. Here are your keys.11. Over the grass rolled the ball.12. There is my aunt.Answers 8. The following sentences are incorrect, because each contains a double negative. Each sentence can be corrected by omitting or altering one
of the negative expressions. Write two corrected versions for each sentence. For example: We have not got no sugar. We have got no sugar. or We have not got any sugar. I have never seen nothing like it before. I have seen nothing like it before. or I have never seen anything like it before. 1. He does not need no advice.2. We never go nowhere interesting.3. I did not get none of the answers right.4. She does not know nothing.5. We had not met neither of the boys before.6. They did not do no harm.7. They did not harm. or They did not do any harm. 8. He speaks to nobody. or He never speaks to anybody. 9. You have no reason to behave like that. or You do not have any reason to behave like that. 9. I know nothing about it. or I do not know anything about it. 10. I have no time for such things. or I do not have any time for such things.Answers to Exercise 9:1. Scarcely had we entered the room when the telephone rang. 2. Never have I seen a more beautiful ballet than that one. 3. Little did we realize that a dangerous stretch of road lay ahead of us. 4. Never before about it. or I do not know anything about it. 5. Rarely can a writer express his exact feelings in words. 6. Hardly ever do we perceive everything that is around us. 7. Nowhere can one find a more striking example of erosion than the Grand Canyon. 8. Little did they guess what was about to happen. 9. Seldom am I entirely satisfied with my work. 10. Rarely does one completely cancel out the negative. 11. How much money did you collect? 12. Where were they? 3. Why didn't I attend the meeting? 4. When did he find time for his hobbies? 5. Why did she leave school? 6. How many times have you seen the movie? 7. When did you complete the assignment? 8. How long will it take? 9. Where are you? 10. Why did she not reply? 11. When does the bank open? 12. Where is she staying?Answers to Exercise 11:1. Please tell me why the information is not here. 2. Did you ask when they will finish work? 3. I wonder where she has studied. 4. Tell us how many pounds of cherries you sold. 5. Will you tell me why the meeting was cancelled? 6. I wonder how long the trip will take. 7. Did you hear how he is? 8. I wonder why they have difficulty with the work. 9. Ask her when she plans to leave. 10. Please let me know how much time you have. 11. I am not sure where the post office is. 12. Tell me where you bought that book. Go to: Grammar Home | Table of Contents | Alphabetical Index | Back to Chapter 24 BBC NewsBible GatewayThe Free DictionaryGoogleEmailProject GutenbergWikipediaYahoo AnswersAdverbs that change or qualify the meaning of a sentence by telling us how often or how frequently something happens are defined as adverbs of frequency. An adverb of frequency is exactly what it sounds like an adverb of time. Adverbs of frequency always describe how often something occurs, either in definite or indefinite terms. An adverb that describes definite frequency is one such as weekly, daily, or yearly. An adverb describing indefinite frequency doesn't specify an exact time frame: examples are sometimes, often, and rarely. Adverbs of Frequency Rules These simple rules for adverbs of frequency will help you to use them correctly: Always use adverbs of frequency to discuss how often something happens. Adverbs of frequency are often used to indicate routine or repeated activities, so they are often used with the present simple tense. If a sentence has only one verb, place the adverb of frequency in the middle of the sentence so that it is positioned after the subject but before the verb. For example: Tom never flies. He always takes the bus. When a sentence contains more than one verb, place the adverb of frequency before the main verb. For example: They have often visited Europe. When using an adverb of frequency in the negative or in forming a question, place it before the main verb. For example: Do you usually get up so late? Examples of Adverbs of Frequency Each sentence contains an example of an adverb of frequency; the examples are given in order of frequency. However, some adverbs can be used in more than one position. Adverbs of frequency usually go in mid position. However, a few of them (sometimes, usually, and normally) can also go in initial position. Mid position usually work on SaturdaysShes hardly ever lateYou should always knock at the door.Initial position:sometimes, usually, normallySometimes, he can be very stubborn.Adverbs of manner (=how)Adverbs of manner can be used in any of the three positions; however, their most common position is the final position.Final position! don't understand you when you speak quickly.She can dance salsamarvellously.Mid position:Adverbs of manner are used in this position mainly in literary style, although they normally go in this position withpassive verb forms.He carefully took the flower and put it in the jar.(=literary)The driver was injured seriously. The driver was seriously injured. Some adverbs of manner cannot be placed in mid position: well, badly, hard, fast.Initial position:Adverbs of manner are used in this position only in literary style.Carefully, she opened the box.Adverbs of time (=when)Final position:We normally place adverbs of time in final position.They'll be here soon.It rained a lotyesterday.Initial position:We can also use adverbs of time in initial position. We place them in this position for emphasis or to structure a text (as connecting devices).Two days after their wedding, they slip up.Last week, she arrived late every day.Comment adverbs:Viewpoint or comment adverbs, e.g. obviously, luckily, unfortunately, honestly, etc., are normally placed in initial position.Unfortunately, we arrived half an hour late.Ideally, we should leave at 10.00.Adverbs of degree (=how much)Almost, hardly, nearly, quite, rather, scarcely, etc.Most degree adverbs usually go in mid position.We were nearly hit by a car in the street.I would rather stay here if you don't mind.Very, extremely, incredibly, absolutely, etc.They are placed before the adjective or adverb they modify.Were incredibly tired.Its absolutely impossible to do it right.Much, a lot, a bitThey are normally used after the verb they complement.Britons drink a lot.He doesnt talk much.a littleIts normally placedbefore the adjective or adverb they modify. Manner, place and timeWhen we have to use different adverbs in final position, their order is usually manner, place and time.They met by chancein England in 1999. Note that when there is a verb of movement, the order is place, manner and time.He goes to schoolby car every day.Ver and object:Verbs and objects can never be separated. We cannot place any adverbs between them.I like a lot pizza. I like pizza a lot. He speaks very well English. He speaks English very well. Page 2 Download full-size image from PinterestInitial position, mid position and final position:Adverbs and adverb phrases can be placed in three positions: initial position, mid position, or final position.Initial position: at the beginning of the sentence.Sometimes I feel a bit lost.Yesterday I went to the library.Final position: at the end of the sentence.She arrived very late.We have to move quickly.Mid position:This is the position where most adverbs are placed. 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