



Adverbs of Frequency

Adverbs of frequency come before the main verb, but after the verb to be.

- We hardly ever go out.
- She frequently forgets what she's doing.
- We don't usually eat fish.
- I rarely see Peter these days.
- We **are** seldom at home in the evening.
- **Is** he normally so bad-tempered?

Sometimes, usually, and occasionally can come at the beginning or the end of a sentence.

- Sometimes we play cards.
- We go to the movies occasionally.

The other adverbs of frequency don't usually move in this way.

- ~~Always~~ I have tea in the morning.

Never 0%

Ever ?% | 0%

Rarely 10%

Seldom 30%

Sometimes 50%

Often 70%

Usually 80%

Generally 90%

Always 100%

ADVERB → VERB

He never leaves before 5:00 (leave | never)

VERB TO BE → ADVERB

Jim is always in the office by 9:00 (be | always)

1) Use the adverbs below to complete the sentences.

a) Have you been to London? (ever)

b) Peter doesn't get up before seven. (usually)

c) Our friends must write tests. (often)

d) They go swimming in the lake. (sometimes)

e) The weather is bad in November. (always)

f) Peggy and Frank are late. (usually)

g) I have met him before. (never)

h) John watches TV. (seldom)

i) I was in contact with my sister. (often)

j) He listens to the radio. (often)

2) Complete the sentences below.

- a) Our phone _____ late at night. (ring | rarely)
- b) Call me at 4:00. I _____ free by then. (be | usually)
- c) Does Harry _____ his old friends from school? (see | ever)
- d) The Masons _____ TV during the week. (not watch | ever)
- e) Jill _____ work home from the office. (take | sometimes)
- f) Prices _____ lower at that department store. (be | generally)
- g) _____ the 5 o'clock train _____ on time? (be | always)
- h) The mail _____ late. (not arrive | often)
- i) It almost _____ in New York in April. (snow | never)
- j) Bob _____ the bus to work. (take | seldom)
- k) It seems like my vacations _____ long enough. (be | never)
- l) The Morgans _____ to a concert. (go | sometimes)
- m) What time do the Bells _____ dinner? (have | usually)
- n) The restaurant _____ busy at this hour. (be | rarely)