

THEME 4 HUMAN IN NATURE GRAMMAR

ADVERBS OF FREQUENCY

Adverbs of frequency tell us how often something happens. They usually come before the main verb, but after the auxiliary verb (do, does, etc.) and the verb to be.

always (100%)

usually (90%)

often (75%)

sometimes (50%)

rarely (10%)

never (0%)

*** We use never with positive verbs, not negative.

I always eat an egg at breakfast.

It is usually rainy in London.

She sometimes drinks coffee.

He rarely listens to music.

I never walk to school.

*** We can place sometimes at the beginning of the sentence as well.

I sometimes get up late.

Sometimes I get up late.

Exercise A. Make sentences using the adverbs of frequency in brackets.

1. Kathy / go to bed late at the weekends. (usually) _____
2. Barbara and Anita / listen to music. (often) _____
3. You / be / angry with me. (sometimes) _____
4. You / do your homework in the evenings. (always) _____
5. I / call my grandparents. (rarely) _____
6. Mr. White / ask easy questions. (never) _____

Exercise B. Rewrite the sentences using the words in brackets:

1. Kate does karate and judo (sometimes) _____
2. Freddy plays basketball at school. (usually) _____
3. The students correct the mistakes. (often) _____
4. Margaret talks to her aunt Alice. twice a week) _____
5. Samuel has a bath. (never) _____

Exercise C. Write questions. Give your answers using the short forms.

1. you / usually / buy / presents for your friends? _____
2. you / often / use / the Internet? _____
3. your English teacher / speak / always / Turkish / in the class? _____
4. your best friend / always / text you? _____

CAN / CAN'T

We use can to talk about abilities.

I can dance well.

He can lift heavy weights.

We use can't to talk about inabilities.

She can't read or write.

They can't ride a bike.

AFFIRMATIVE

I / You / We / They / He / She / It can dance.

NEGATIVE

I / You / We / They / He / She / It cannot (can't) dance.

INTERROGATIVE

Can I / You / We / They / He / She / It can dance?

Yes, you can. / No, you can't.

Yes, I can. / No, I can't.

Yes, he can. / No, he can't.

Yes, she can. / No, she can't.

Yes, it can. / No, it can't.

Yes, you can. / No, you can't.

Yes, we can. / No, we can't.

Yes, they can. / No, they can't.

Exercise A. Put the words in the correct order.

1. can / 100 metres / swim / My little brother _____
2. say / can / German / What / you / in _____
3. can / my / English / I / talk / in / family / about _____
4. cannot / Jan and Eric / the piano / well / play _____

Exercise B. Choose the correct option.

1. M-O-N-D-A-Y. I can / can't spell the day after Sunday.
2. A : One...deux.....three..... quatre?
B : You can / can't count in English.
3. A : Can you say the alphabet backwards in English?
B : Let me try. Y...Z...X...Well, I can / can't.
4. My friends don't like my spaghetti. I can / can't cook well.
5. I feel great today. I can / can't run and exercise in the park.