

Adverbs and adverbial phrases of frequency

We often use adverbs and adverbial phrases when we want to talk about the frequency of past and present habits.

always / all the time / constantly

normally / usually / as a rule / on the whole / by and large

sometimes / now and again / once in a while

almost never / very rarely / hardly ever / once in a blue moon

We also use phrases with (not) *as much as*.

I don't go out as much as I'd like to / I want / I used to / I did before.

Tick (✓) the correct sentences. Rewrite the incorrect sentences.

Ⓐ I never use to eat spicy food, but I really like it now.

Ⓑ ~~I never used to eat spicy food, but I really like it now.~~

1 I didn't go out very often when I was young, but these days, I use to go out every week.

2 I tend not spending as much time studying nowadays.

3 As a child, I'd usually stay with my grandma in the summer, which I used to love.

4 There was one time I'd break my leg when I fell off my bike.

5 These days we tend to go out not as much as we'd like to.

6 I hardly ever watch TV and I only go to the cinema once in a blue moon.

7 When I was young, I was playing football in the park nearly every day.

8 I don't train as much as I used to, but I will get out for a run at the weekend.

9 In the past, we only tended to go out for dinner on our birthdays. Now we always eat out!

10 Their parents wouldn't normally let the children stay up late, but now and again they could.

ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

Adjectives

We usually use adjectives to give information about nouns.

Adjectives usually go before the noun.

The book had a really gripping plot.

Adjectives can also go after 'linking' verbs such as *be, become, get, go, feel, grow, keep, look, remain, seem, smell, stay, sound, taste* and *turn*. The adjectives describe the subject of the verb and do not go before the noun.

The man seems very annoyed.

Adverbs

We use adverbs for many different purposes. They can give information about adjectives, verbs or other adverbs, or we use them to give an opinion about a whole sentence. Adverbs used with 'linking' verbs describe how something is done.

We form most adverbs by adding *-ly* to an adjective, but some adverbs, such as *alive, fast, hard, late* and *later*, use the same form as the adjective.

Adverbs usually go before adjectives, but we can use them before other adverbs and at the start of sentences or clauses to show an opinion.

*The opera last night was **absolutely** fantastic.*

*He eats **very** slowly.*

***Luckily**, I arrived at the airport just in time.*

Adverbs of frequency usually go before the main verb. Adverbs showing when something happens or how something is done usually go after a verb.

*We **never** go abroad anymore.*

*Sami hasn't left the house since **yesterday**.*

*They didn't sing **well** at all.*

Complete the sentences with an adverb from box A and an adjective from box B. There are four words that you do not need.

A	apparently	cautiously	completely	eagerly	fast	fortunately	
	highly	properly	rarely	ridiculously	terribly	virtually	well-

B	anticipated	asleep	awake	aware	challenging	disappointed	
	dull	easy	impossible	likely	optimistic	ridiculous	sorry

➊ His explanation for not helping with the catering was completely ridiculous.

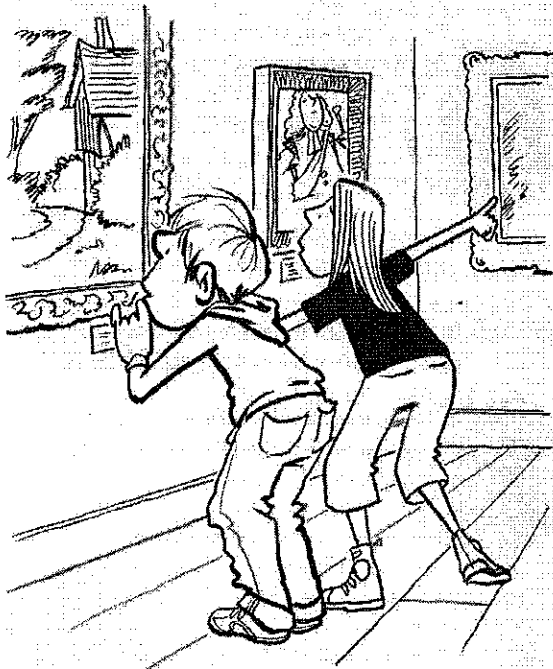
- This prison is so secure that escape would be _____.
- I would say that an eruption on Mount Etna is _____ in the next five years.
- The dates of his _____ world tour will be announced today.
- Mia was very _____ with her results. _____, she'd forgotten about the test, so she hadn't revised for it.
- We put the children to bed an hour ago, so why are they still _____? _____, they don't have to get up early tomorrow.
- The team has spent three years working towards today's launch, so we are _____ it will go well.
- Of course I got 100% on the test – it was _____!
- We are _____ of our responsibilities and take them seriously.
- I started a photography class last week. I'm gradually learning how to use the equipment _____, but it is very _____.
- He _____ goes to exhibitions because he finds them _____.

VOCABULARY Talking about pictures

1 Complete the paragraph with the correct form of the words in brackets.

There are nearly as many opinions on art as there are paintings themselves. Describing a painting is always open to ¹..... (interpret). What appears ²..... (atmosphere) or ³..... (drama) to one person may seem dull or ⁴..... (convention) to another. Abstract art is perhaps the style that is most difficult to appreciate because its meaning is often ⁵..... (ambiguity).

2 Complete the conversation with the words in the box.



realistic intimate subtle abstract bold

- A: Can we skip the modern art section? It's all a bit too ¹..... for me. I like to know what I'm looking at.
 B: Yeah, sure. ... Look, this one is very ²..... You feel you could almost pick up the fruit and eat it.
 A: You're right. It must be difficult to get in all that detail. And what do you think of this one?
 B: Oh, it's very dramatic, isn't it? The colours are very ³.....
 A: Yeah ... but this one is different. These ⁴..... colours are very soft and relaxing.
 B: Hmm. I find it a bit disturbing to look at a private moment like this, though. It's too ⁵..... to share with other people, really.

3 Match the sentence halves.

- 1 This one is so realistic. It looks as
 - 2 Come and look at this. The man in the picture
 - 3 I don't see the attraction. To me all his paintings
 - 4 She looks furious so they've
 - 5 The artist was born in Belgium and that could
 - 6 It all seems very weird. I think it must
 - 7 It's a celebration and they appear
 - 8 Looking at this one, I get
- a to have just got married.
 b well be his hometown.
 c look really dull.
 d if it's been photographed with a camera.
 e the impression the artist was rather depressed.
 f obviously just been arguing.
 g looks a bit like your brother.
 h show some sort of nightmare.

Language note uses of *look*

They look really dull. (look + adjective)
It looks as if it's been photographed. (look as if + clause)
He looks like your brother. (look like + noun)

GRAMMAR Adjectives and adverbs

4 Find and correct the six sentences that contain mistakes with adjectives or adverbs.

- 1 You look tired. Have you been working hard recently?
- 2 She said it was an absolute dreadful film.
- 3 If you arrive lately for work again, you'll be in real trouble.
- 4 Don't forget to check your work really careful.
- 5 She looks very sadly. Do you think she's been crying?
- 6 Funny enough, I was thinking exactly the same thing.
- 7 We hardly ever go to the cinema nowadays.
- 8 Look direct at the camera and give a big smile!

5 Complete the sentences with one word from box A and one from box B.

A unusually wrongly terribly absolutely completely badly

B rebuilt amazing injured chilly sad arrested

- 1 Both the driver and passenger were in the accident.
- 2 The gallery was after the fire.
- 3 It was to hear the news of his death.
- 4 The gig was the best I've ever been to.
- 5 The man was but then was released after new evidence came to light.
- 6 This month has been We haven't had such low temperatures for years.