



**INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH [2023– 2024]**

TOPIC: Adverbs of Frequency

HANDOUT

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NAME: _____ CLASS: V SEC: ____ DATE: _____

We use Adverbs of Frequency to say **how often** we do things or how often things happen. These are called **Adverbs of Frequency**. **Eg: daily, often, never, usually**

Adverbs of Frequency are divided into two groups. They are Adverbs of Definite Frequency and Adverbs of Indefinite Frequency.

***Adverbs of Definite Frequency**

Adverbs of Definite Frequency describe exactly how often an action happens. **Eg: weekly/every week, daily/every day, or yearly/every year, once a month, twice a year, four times a day, every other week, monthly.**

For example, John plays cricket **weekly** or I go to school **every day**.

***Adverbs of Indefinite Frequency**

Adverbs of **Indefinite Frequency** give us an *idea* about frequency of an action but don't tell us an exact time frame.

Eg: always, usually, occasionally, or never.

For example, He **usually** sits at the front of the classroom.

I **never** listen to rock music.

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 in the morning.
70%	often / frequently	I often surf the internet.
50%	sometimes	I sometimes forget my cousin's birthday.
30%	occasionally	I occasionally eat junk food.
10%	seldom	I seldom read the newspaper.
5%	hardly ever / rarely	I hardly ever drink cold water.
0%	never	I never swim in the sea.

We use **hardly ever** and **never** with positive, **not** negative verbs: She **hardly ever** comes to my parties.

They **never** say 'thank you'.

We use **ever** in questions and negative statements:

Have you **ever** been to New Zealand?

I haven't **ever** been to Switzerland. (The same as 'I have never been to Switzerland').

***The Position of the Adverb in a sentence**

An Adverb of Frequency goes **before** a main verb (except with 'To Be').

Subject + adverb + <i>main verb</i>
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I always <i>remember</i> to do my homework.
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He normally <i>gets</i> good marks in exams.

An Adverb of Frequency goes **after** the verb 'To Be'.

Subject + <i>to be</i> + adverb
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They <i>are</i> never pleased to see me.

She <i>isn't</i> usually bad tempered.

When we use an auxiliary verb (have, will, must, might, could, would, can, etc.), the adverb is placed between the auxiliary and the main verb. This is also true for 'To Be' forms of verbs.

Subject + <i>auxiliary</i> + adverb + <i>main verb</i>

She <i>can</i> sometimes <i>beat</i> me in a race.

I <i>would</i> hardly ever <i>be</i> unkind to someone.
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They <i>might</i> never <i>see</i> each other again.

They <i>could</i> occasionally <i>be</i> heard laughing.

*We can also use the following Adverbs at the beginning or at the end of a sentence:

Usually, normally, often, frequently, sometimes, occasionally.

Eg: Occasionally, I like to eat Thai food.

*We **cannot** use the following Adverbs at the beginning of a sentence:

Always, seldom, rarely, hardly, ever, never.

Eg: Alan is seldom late to school.

*Rarely and seldom can also go at the end of a sentence.

Eg: We visit them rarely.