

Adverbs of Time

Introduction

1) An adverb is a word or set of words that modifies verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs. Usually adverbs modify verbs, telling us how, how often, when, or where something was done.

*We walked **really slowly**.*

2) There are many kinds of adverbs. Among them there are adverbs of time. These adverbs tell us when an action happened, for how long, or how often. Adverbs of time are invariable.

*Sorry, I'll call you **in a minute**.*

Adverbs of time are usually placed at the end of the sentence.

*I'll do it **tomorrow**.*

Sometimes these adverbs can be put at the beginning of the sentence to give a different emphasis.

***Later** they noticed his absence.*

In the adverbial phrases that tell us for how long something has been happening, *for* is always followed by an expression of duration, while *since* is always followed by an expression of a point in time.

*They'll be away **for twenty days**.*

*I haven't seen you **since June!***

Adverbs that tell us how often something happens express the frequency of an action. They are usually placed before the main verb but after auxiliary verbs (such as *to have*, *may*, *must*).

*Sarah **usually** wakes up at **7 a.m.***

*You must **always** be kind to others.*

The only exception is when the main verb is *to be*, in which case the adverb goes after the main verb.

*I am **never** late.*

If you need to use more than one adverb of time in a sentence, use them in the following order: (1) *how long*, (2) *how often*, (3) *when*.

*Peter worked at the mall **for 4 days (1) every week (2) last year (3).***

Short Story Dialogue

- *When was the last time you cooked?*
- *I cook **every day** so that must be **today!***
- *When was the last time you took a bath?*
- *I don't remember really. I **rarely** take baths. I am more of a shower person.*
- *When was the last time you slept it?*
- *Oh, it was about **a week ago!** It was a wonderful **Sunday**. I woke up **late**, stayed in bed **for a couple of hours** and just enjoyed life.*

Independent Practice - Adverbs of Time

1) Fill in the gaps with the adverbs from the box.

<i>daily</i>	<i>for hours</i>	<i>today</i>	<i>every year</i>	<i>later</i>
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- a. I don't feel like doing my laundry
- b. This newspaper arrives My grandpa reads it while eating breakfast all the time.
- c. When I was a kid, I would play video games
- d. We have a great Christmas tradition. we send postcards to all the relatives we have!
- e. I think my parents came home. I'll call you

2) Fill in the gaps with *for* or *since*.

- a. Peter just leaves if he waits for someone more than 5 minutes.
- b. We've been friends with Sarah ages!
- c. Emily moved to Peru and we haven't heard from her
- d. You look much healthier I saw you last time.
- e. She's been depressed months! She must see a doctor.

Independent Practice: Answers - Adverbs of Time

1) Fill in the gaps with the adverbs from the box.

- a. I don't feel like doing my laundry **today**.
- b. This newspaper arrives **daily**. My grandpa reads it while eating breakfast all the time.
- c. When I was a kid, I would play video games **for hours**.
- d. We have a great Christmas tradition. **Every year** we send postcards to all the relatives we have!
- e. I think my parents came home. I'll call you **later**.

2) Fill in the gaps with *for* or *since*.

- a. Peter just leaves if he waits for someone **for** more than 5 minutes.
- b. We've been friends with Sarah **for** ages!
- c. Emily moved to Peru and we haven't heard from her **since**.
- d. You look much healthier **since** I saw you last time.
- e. She's been depressed **for** months! She must see a doctor.