

The Culture Quiz



Are these true or false?

- 1 You don't need to arrive for dinner on time in the UK. Guests are often late.
- 2 In the UK, the Queen celebrates her birthday twice a year.
- 3 The Chinese New Year is always on the same day of the year.
- 4 On her fifteenth birthday, a girl often receives gold in Colombia.
- 5 The Irish always celebrate St Patrick's Day on 27th March.
- 6 In Russia, people don't often give presents on 25th December. Christmas Day for them is on 7th January.

Answers: 1F 2T 3F (She has an official birthday and her normal birthday.) 3F (The date changes from year to year.) 4T 5F (St. Patrick's Day is on 17th March.) 6T

Presentation

Use adverbs and expressions of frequency to say how often something happens. You often use these adverbs and expressions with the simple present tense.

Adverbs of frequency

These are some of the most common adverbs of frequency:

0%	never
↑	hardly ever/rarely
↑	not often
↑	occasionally/sometimes
↑	often
↓	normally/usually
100%	always

The Irish **always** celebrate St. Patrick's Day on March 17.

Position of adverbs of frequency

Adverbs of frequency normally come ...

- before the main verb

The Irish **always** wear green on St. Patrick's Day. Russian people **don't often** give presents on December 25.

Do Russian people **often** give presents on December 25?

- after the verb *to be*

Guests **are often** late.

Guests **aren't often** late.

Are guests **often** late?

Expressions of frequency

once a(n)	hour / day / week / month / year
twice a(n)	
three times a(n)	
every	hour / day / week / month / year / Monday / Tuesday / Wednesday / six months / five years

The Irish celebrate St. Patrick's Day **every year**.

We play soccer **once a week**.

Position of expressions of frequency

Expressions of frequency can come at the beginning or the end of the sentence:

Every year they celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

They celebrate St. Patrick's Day **every year**.

(Don't say *They every year* celebrate St. Patrick's Day.)

Exercises

1 A hotel interviewed the guests about meals. Look at the results and then choose the correct words in the summary.

1 How often do you use the hotel room service for your meals?
 Every meal 5% Once a day 45% Not often 50%

2 Which do you normally prefer for breakfast?
 Continental breakfast 85% Full English breakfast 12% Don't eat breakfast 3%

3 Do you ever eat at the restaurant in the evening?
 Yes, every night 6% Sometimes 25% No, I usually eat out 69%

Five percent of the guests ¹ *always / often* use room service for meals and 45% eat in their rooms ² *every / all* day. The rest ³ *hardly ever / sometimes* use room service. Only 3% ⁴ *rarely / never* eat breakfast and most people ⁵ *occasionally / usually* have the Continental breakfast instead of the Full English breakfast. Most people ⁶ *always / normally* eat out in the evening. Only 6% ⁷ *always / sometimes* eat there.

2 Complete the second sentence so that it has the same meaning as the first sentence. Use the phrases in the box.

always	don't normally	don't often
hardly ever	once a year	twice a week

- My brother is never on time.
My brother is _____ late.
- Spanish people rarely eat before nine in the evening.
Spanish people _____ eat before nine in the evening.
- We have English classes on Mondays and Thursdays.
We have English classes _____
- My family lives in different cities, but we always meet on the first of January.
My family lives in different cities, but we meet _____
- People in my country usually offer tea to a visitor.
People in my country _____ offer coffee to a visitor.
- My schedule is busy, so I often work on weekends.
My schedule is busy, so I _____ have a free weekend.

3 Add the adverbs and expressions of frequency in parentheses to the sentences.

Cultural Habits

Breakfast habits around the world

- What we eat for breakfast is the same every day. (usually) ^{usually} ^
- In Madagascar, people eat dried beef. (a few times a week)
- Canadians put maple syrup on their morning pancakes. (always)
- British people start the day without either tea or coffee. (rarely)
- Italians drink a cup of coffee before they do anything else. (normally)
- Most breakfast tables around the world include bread. (every day)