

Adverbs of frequency

always hardly ever never not often
occasionally often rarely sometimes
usually

We use adverbs of frequency to talk about how often we do things.

I often cycle to school.

I sometimes take out the rubbish.

My granddad rarely goes to the cinema.

I don't often get up late.

We never eat pork.

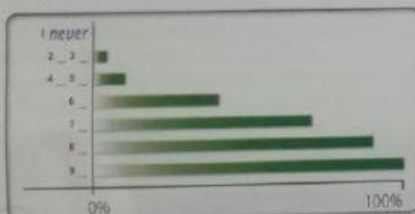
We hardly ever go to the cinema.

With be, we put the adverb after the verb.

I'm always late.

Grammar reference 100

1 Complete the table with adverbs of frequency.



2 Put the words in order to make sentences.

- at school / usually / we / have lunch
We usually have lunch at school.
- hardly ever / music / listen to / my parents
- do / in the evening / always / my homework / I
- go swimming / doesn't / very often / Rosie
- never / my brother / the housework / does
- tired / often / is / on Monday morning / Lisa

3 How well do you know your partner? Write five sentences about him/her including an adverb of frequency.

Carla always eats paella on Friday.

4 Tell your partner your ideas. Are you correct?

Carla, you always eat paella on Friday.

That isn't true! I sometimes eat other things on Friday.

can / can't

We use *can* to talk about ability and possibility.

ABILITY: *I can play football.*

POSSIBILITY: *You can buy stamps in this shop.*

Use *can* + infinitive without to.

He can swim.

I can't (cannot) swim.

Can you swim?

Grammar reference 101

5 Complete the dialogue with *can* or *can't* and the verbs in brackets. Then listen and check.

Sam: Your English is great, Erika!

Erika: Thanks.

Sam: ¹ Can most Dutch people speak German too? (speak)

Erika: Yes, they ² ... We get a lot of TV programmes from the UK and Germany. And Dutch is similar to English and German, so we ³ ... them easily. (learn)

Sam: So you ⁴ ... English and German. Any other languages? (speak)

Erika: Not really. I ⁵ ... a few words in Italian like *Ciao*, but I ⁶ ... a conversation. (say, have)

Sam: My mum is Italian. We speak it at home.

Erika: Oh, great! ⁷ ... you ... me some? (teach)

Sam: Sure. I ⁸ ... it now - I've got a Maths lesson. But we ⁹ ... later if you like. (do, practise)

Erika: That sounds great!



PRONUNCIATION can and can't

6 Listen. How are *can* and *can't* pronounced in each sentence? Then listen again and repeat.

- Jo can play the guitar.
- Molly can't dance.
- Can you swim? Yes, I can.
- Can you speak Russian? No, I can't.

7 Ask and answer questions with *can*.

- play tennis cook count backwards in English
play chess ride a horse speak Portuguese
do karate juggle ski play the piano

Can you play tennis?