

Rapid Review of English Grammar

(Adverbs of Frequency)

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Adverbs of frequency

The adverbs of frequency are words which tell in a general way how many times an action is repeated. They are used in sentence patterns which express customary or repeated action. They are not generally used with progressive tenses. The following are the most common ones:

Affirmatives		Negatives	Interrogative
Always	Often	Seldom	Ever?
Usually	Sometimes	Rarely (hardly ever)	
Frequently	Occasionally	Never	

The words seldom, rarely and never are negative. They aren't used with **not**. The affirmative form of never is ever. It's used with **not** and in questions. For example:

-Does Bill ever call his mother?

No, he doesn't ever call her.

No. he never calls her.

} Same meaning

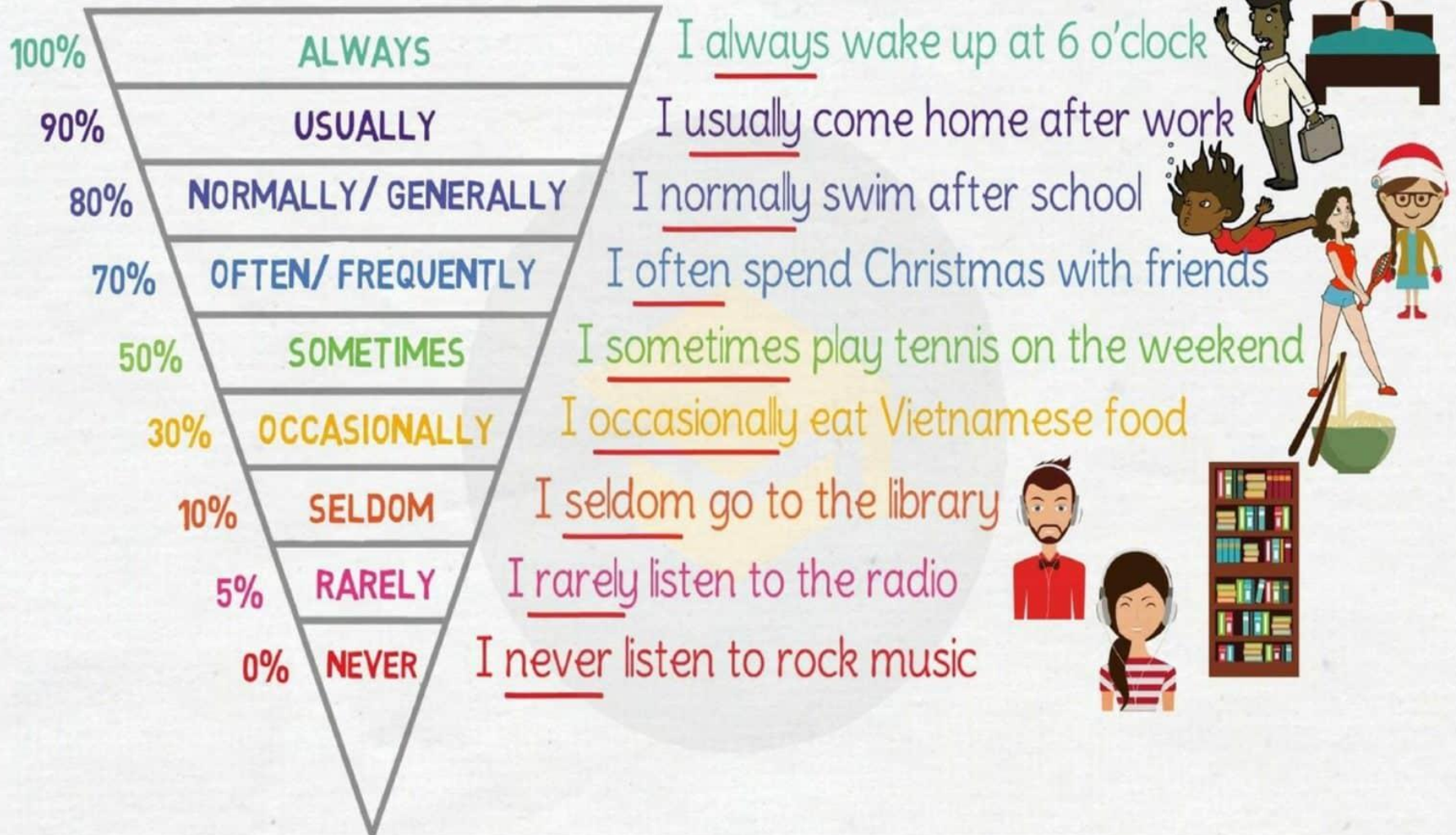
He seldom calls her.

He rarely calls her.

} Not often

Adverbs of Frequency

An adverb of frequency tells us how often something takes place.



The positions of adverbs of frequency

Adverbs of frequency come before the main verb except verb to be because they follow it. Notice the following examples:

Type of Sentence	Examples
Affirmative Sentences	Bill usually makes a person-to-person call.
	The charge is always less at night.
Negative Sentences	Bill doesn't often call his mother in the morning.
	She isn't usually at home at that time.
Interrogative Sentences	Does Bill ever call his mother in the morning?
	Is she usually at home in the evening?
	When does Bill usually call his mother? Who is usually at home in the evening?

The Positions of Time and Place
Expressions

The Position of Time Expressions

- 3** **Time at the beginning.** In the sentence patterns we have examined so far, all the time expressions are in the same position—at the end of the sentence. When a speaker wishes to emphasize time, or when he feels a need for variety in his sentence patterns, he puts the time expression at the beginning.

TIME	NORMAL WORD ORDER
On Saturday nights	Jack goes to the movies.
On Tuesdays	Bill doesn't get up early.
At noon	there is always a long line in the cafeteria.
Right now	the students are having an English lesson.
Today	they are studying prepositions.

The Positions of Place Expressions

- 4** **Place at the beginning.** A place expression may also come at the beginning of a sentence for emphasis or variety, though this is a less frequent pattern. It happens most often in the presence of expletive *there*.

a.

PLACE	NORMAL WORD ORDER
In the drug store	there is a public telephone.
In the reference room	there are many encyclopedias.
There	the students do their assignments.
There	Jack studies in the afternoon.

- b. When *there* at the beginning refers to a place previously mentioned, the rest of the sentence pattern is normal, as in the illustrations above. However, when *there* refers to something being pointed to, the rest of the sentence is inverted. The same thing happens with *here*.

PLACE	INVERTED WORD ORDER	
	Verb	Subject
There	is	the bookstore.
Here	come	the Allens.
There	goes	the bus.

Numbers

- There are two kinds of numbers, cardinal and ordinal. **Cardinal numbers** are used in counting and to indicate quantities. **Ordinal numbers** are used to indicate positions in a series.
- When a noun is modified by an ordinal number and a cardinal number, the ordinal always precedes.

e.g. The **first** three lessons are easy.

Cardinal and ordinal numbers

Cardinal		ordinal	
1	One	1st	first
2	Two	2nd	second
3	Three	3rd	third
4	Four	4th	fourth
5	Five	5th	fifth
6	Six	6th	sixth
90	Ninety	90th	ninetieth
100	Hundred	100th	hundredth
101	A hundred and one	101st	one hundred and first
221	Two hundred and twenty one	221st	two hundred and twenty first
1000	One thousand	1000th	(one) thousandth
2008	Two thousand and eight	2008th	two thousand and eighth

555,555 five hundred and fifty five thousand five hundred and fifty five

555,555th five hundred and fifty five thousand five hundred and fifty fifth

1	one	1st	first
2	two	2nd	second
3	three	3rd	<u>third</u>
4	four	4th	fourth
5	five	5th	<u>fifth</u>
6	six	6th	sixth
7	seven	7th	seventh
8	eight	8th	<u>eighth</u>
9	nine	9th	<u>ninth</u>
10	ten	10th	tenth
11	eleven	11th	eleventh
12	twelve	12th	<u>twelfth</u>
13	thirteen	13th	thirteenth
14	fourteen	14th	fourteenth
15	fifteen	15th	fifteenth
16	sixteen	16th	sixteenth
17	seventeen	17th	seventeenth
18	eighteen	18th	eighteenth
19	nineteen	19th	nineteenth
20	twenty	20th	<u>twentieth</u>
21	twenty-one	21st	twenty-first
30	thirty	30th	thirtieth
40	<u>forty</u>	40th	fortieth
50	<u>fifty</u>	50th	fiftieth
60	sixty	60th	sixtieth
70	seventy	70th	seventieth
80	eighty	80th	eightieth
90	ninety	90th	ninetieth
100	a (one) hundred	100th	one hundredth
101	a (one) hundred (and) one	101st	one hundred (and) first
200	two hundred	200th	two hundredth
1,000	a (one) thousand	1,000th	one thousandth
2,000	two thousand ¹	2,000th	two thousandth
1,000,000	a (one) million	1,000,000th	millionth
2,000,000	two million ¹	2,000,000th	two millionth
1,000,000.000	a (one) billion ²	1,000,000,000th	billionth

Telling Time: the following expressions are used to tell the time of the day.

6:00	six six o'clock
6:10	six ten ten (minutes) ³ after six
6:15	six fifteen a quarter after six a quarter past six
6:30	six thirty half past six
6:45	six forty-five a quarter to seven a quarter of seven a quarter till seven
6:55	six fifty-five five (minutes) to seven five (minutes) of seven five (minutes) till seven
12:00	noon midnight

Hours of the day are not numbered beyond twelve. We use the abbreviations a.m. and p.m. instead. The hours before noon are designated a.m.; those after noon are designated p.m. You will also see these two terms written in capital letters: A.M., P.M. Either way is correct, but be consistent in your usage.

Telling the time



2:00 - It's two **o'clock**.
2:05 - It's five **past** two.
2:10 - It's ten **past** two.
2:15 - It's quarter **past** two.
2:20 - It's twenty **past** two.
2:25 - It's twenty-five **past** two.

2:30 - It's half **past** two.
2:35 - It's twenty-five **to** three.
2:40 - It's twenty **to** three.
2:45 - It's quarter **to** three.
2:50 - It's ten **to** three.
2:55 - It's five **to** three.

We use **AT + TIME** when giving the time of a specific event.

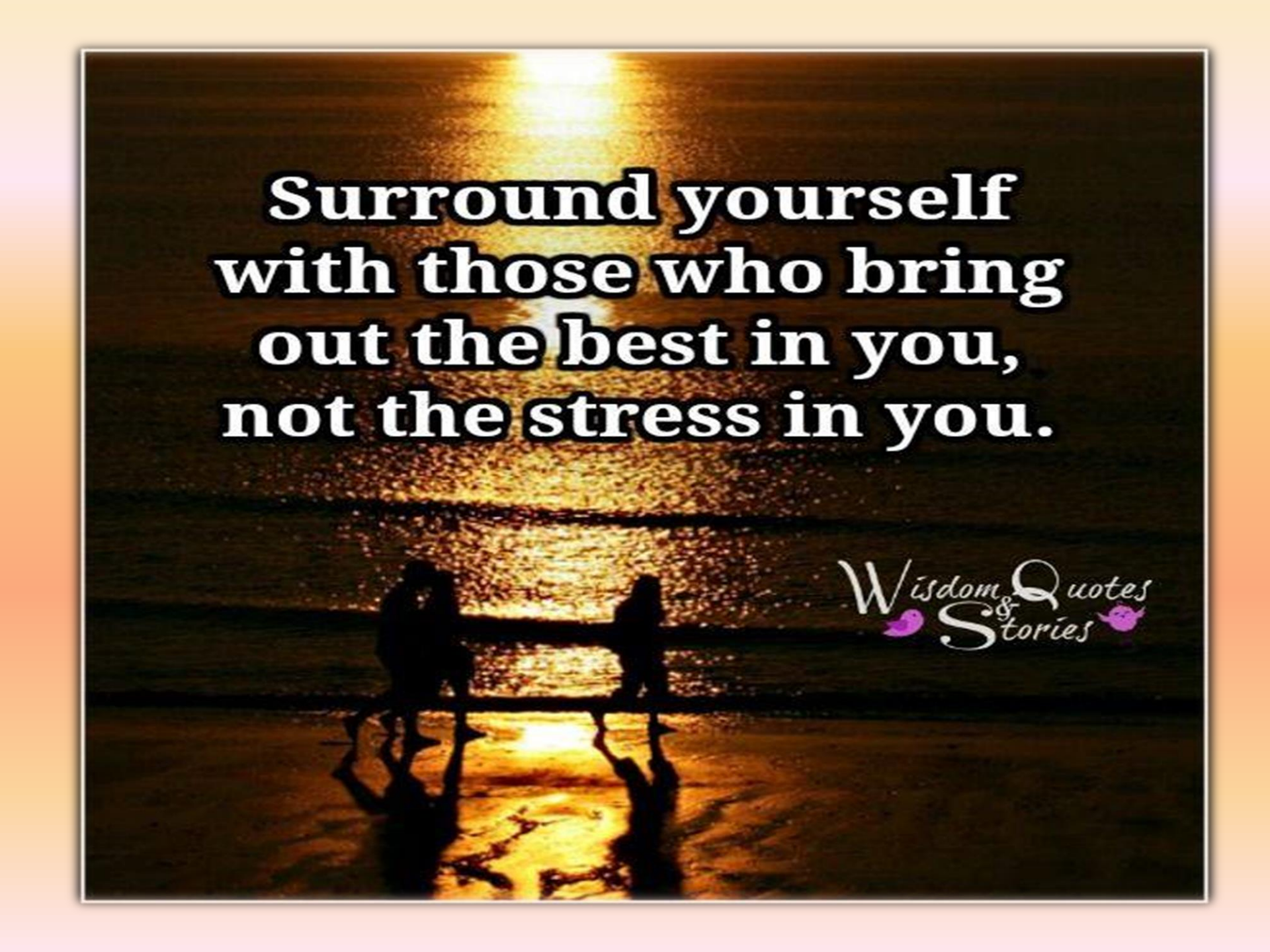
- The class starts **at** nine o'clock.
- The flight leaves **at** ten to three.

We use **IT IS** or **IT'S** to answer a question that asks for the time right now.

- What time is it? - **It is** half past four.
What's the time? - **It's** twenty to five.

Days, Months, and Seasons

DAYS	ABBREVIATIONS	MONTHS	ABBREVIATIONS	SEASONS
Sunday	Sun.	January	Jan.	spring
Monday	Mon.	February	Feb.	summer
Tuesday	Tue. or Tues.	March	Mar.	fall, autumn
Wednesday	Wed.	April	Apr.	winter
Thursday	Thur. or Thurs.	May	---	
Friday	Fri.	June	---	
Saturday	Sat.	July	---	
		August	Aug.	
		September	Sept.	
		October	Oct.	
		November	Nov.	
		December	Dec.	

A sunset scene over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright, shimmering reflection on the water's surface. In the foreground, two silhouetted figures are standing on a beach, looking out at the water. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**Surround yourself
with those who bring
out the best in you,
not the stress in you.**

*Wisdom & Quotes
Stories*