

Still, yet, and already

Anymore / any longer / no longer

A

Still

We use **still** to say that a situation or action is continuing. It hasn't changed or stopped:

- It's 10:00 and Tom is **still** in bed.
- When I went to bed, Jane was **still** working.
- Do you **still** want to go to the party, or have you changed your mind?

Still usually goes in the middle of the sentence with the verb. See Unit 106.

B

Anymore / any longer / no longer

We use **not . . . anymore** or **not . . . any longer** to say that a situation has changed. **Anymore** and **any longer** go at the end of a sentence:

- Ann **doesn't work here anymore** (*or any longer*). She left last month.
- We **used to be good friends, but we aren't anymore** (*or any longer*).

You can also use **no longer**. **No longer** goes in the middle of the sentence:

- Ann **no longer works** here.

Note that we do not normally use **no more** in this way:

- We are **no longer** friends. (*not* We are **no more** friends)

Compare **still** and **not . . . anymore**:

- Sheila **still works** here, but Ann **doesn't work here anymore**.

C

Yet

Yet = until now. We use **yet** mainly in negative sentences (I haven't finished yet) and questions (Have you finished yet?). **Yet** shows that the speaker is expecting something to happen. **Yet** usually goes at the end of a sentence:

- It's 10:00 and Tom **hasn't gotten up yet**.
- I'm hungry. **Is dinner ready yet?**
- We **don't know where we're going for our vacation yet**.

Compare **yet** and **still**:

- Jack lost his job a year ago and is **still** unemployed.
Jack lost his job a year ago and **hasn't found another job yet**.
- **Is it still raining?**
Has it stopped raining yet?

Still is also possible in negative sentences (before the negative):

- She said she would be here an hour ago, and she **still hasn't come**.

This is similar to "she hasn't come yet." But **still . . . not** shows a stronger feeling of surprise or impatience. Compare:

- I wrote to him last week. He **hasn't replied yet**. (but I expect he will reply soon)
- I wrote to him months ago, and he **still hasn't replied**. (he should have replied before now)

D

Already

We use **already** to say that something happened sooner than expected. **Already** goes in the middle of a sentence (see Unit 106) or at the end:

- "When is Sue going on vacation?" "She **has already gone**." (= sooner than you expected)
- Should I tell Liz the news, or does she **already know**?
- I've just had lunch, and I'm hungry **already**.

Exercises

107.1 Compare what Paul said a few years ago with what he says now. Some things are the same as before, and some things have changed.

Paul a few years ago



I travel a lot.
I work in a gym.
I write poems.
I want to be a teacher.
I'm interested in politics.
I'm single.
I go fishing a lot.

Paul now



I travel a lot.
I work in a hospital.
I gave up writing poems.
I want to be a teacher.
I'm not interested in politics.
I'm single.
I haven't been fishing for years.

Write sentences about Paul using *still* and *not... anymore*.

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|---|---------------------|
| 1. (travel) <i>He still travels a lot.</i> | 5. (politics) _____ |
| 2. (gym) <i>He doesn't work in a gym anymore.</i> | 6. (single) _____ |
| 3. (poems) He _____. | 7. (fishing) _____ |
| 4. (teacher) _____ | 8. (beard) _____ |

Now write three sentences about Paul using *no longer*.

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| 9. <i>He no longer works in a gym.</i> | 11. _____ |
| 10. He _____. | 12. _____ |

107.2 For each sentence (with *still*) write a sentence with a similar meaning using *not... yet* + one of the following verbs:

decide finish leave stop take off wake up

- It's still raining. *It hasn't stopped raining yet.*
- George is still here. He _____.
- They're still eating dinner. They _____.
- The children are still asleep. _____.
- I'm still wondering what to do. _____.
- The plane is still waiting on the runway. _____.

107.3 Put *still*, *yet*, *already*, or *anymore* in the underlined sentence (or part of a sentence). Study the examples carefully.

- Jack lost his job a year ago, and he is unemployed. *he is still unemployed*
- Do you want me to tell Liz the news, or does she know? *does she already know*
- I'm hungry. Is dinner ready? *Is dinner ready yet?*
- I was hungry earlier, but I'm not hungry. *I'm not hungry anymore*
- Can we wait a few minutes? I don't want to go out.
- Jill used to work at the airport, but she doesn't work there.
- I used to live in Tokyo. I have a lot of friends there.
- "Should I introduce you to Jim?" "You don't have to. We've met."
- Do you live in the same house, or have you moved? _____
- Would you like to eat with us, or have you eaten? _____
- "Where's John?" "He isn't here. He'll be here soon." _____
- Tim said he would be here at 8:30. It's 9:00 now, and he isn't here.
- Do you want to join the club, or are you a member? _____
- It happened a long time ago, but I can remember it very clearly.
- I've put on weight. These pants don't fit me. _____