17 Time words (2)



Time in relation to NOW

Now means at this moment. Then means at another moment (usually in the past).



It is 10 o'clock now. I got up 2 hours ago, at 8 o'clock. An hour ago it was 9 o'clock.

two years 1994 1996 for two years from 1994 to 1996 from 2010 to 2012

1994 -- 1996

last year / last week / last Saturday next year / next week / next summer

It is July now.

Last month it was June.

Next month it will be August.



When we talk about time in general, we talk about the past, the present and the future. We talk about the past, the present and the future forms of the verb, for example

In the past people didn't have television.

People may travel to Mars in the future.

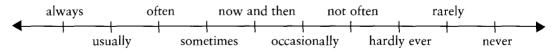
I'll be with you in a moment. (= a very short time) Jane's in Paris at the moment. (= now)

See you soon! (= in a short time)

We met recently. (= not long ago)

В

Frequency adverbs



It always snows in Russia in winter.

It often rains in Britain.

The temperature in London hardly ever gets to 35°. (= almost never)

The Ancient Romans never went to America or Australia.

Notice the use of a in these expressions of frequency.

once (= one time) a week: I go swimming once a week, every Saturday.

twice (= two times) a day: I clean my teeth twice a day.

three times a year: I see my uncle three times a year.

four times a month: I play football four or five times a month.

Exercises

17. Fill the gaps with a preposition from A opposite.

- 17.2 Draw lines to match the centuries to their time.
 - 1 the 19th century

2 the 22nd century

the past

3 the 18th century

the present

4 the 21st century

the future

5 the 20th century

- **17.3** Read the sentences and answer the questions.
 - 1 Peter will get his exam results very soon.

Do you think Peter will get them next year, next month or tomorrow?

2 Harriet and Rupert met for the first time recently.

Do you think they first met last year, six months ago or a week ago?

3 I'll help you in a moment.

Do you think I'll help you next week, in two hours or in a few minutes?

- 17.4 Are these sentences true about you? If not, write them out correctly. Use other frequency adverbs from B on the opposite page.
 - 1 I always go swimming on Fridays. I sometimes go swimming on Fridays. I often go swimming on Saturdays.

2 I normally go to school/work by bus.

6 I often wear a hat.

3 I hardly ever play football.

7 I rarely eat chocolate.

4 I occasionally watch TV.

8 I always go to bed at 10.

5 I rarely drink milk.

9 I never go to the theatre.

17.5 Look at the table and make sentences using expressions like once a week, three times a month, etc.

	play tennis	practise the piano	have a business meeting in Germany
John	Mondays and Thursdays	Saturdays	the first Friday every month
Sally and Amy	Tuesdays, Fri da ys and Saturdays	every morning and every evening	once in January, March, May, July, August and December every year.

17.6 Write a paragraph about your own life using as many as possible of the words and expressions from the opposite page.