

# Adverbs of Frequency

Level: Advanced

Test: 2

Explanations

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1. "Scarcely" is an adverb showing that something happens very little or almost not at all; so, "she scarcely remembers" means she almost never remembers, which is similar to "she often forgets."
2. The adverb "virtually never" precisely indicates that missing deadlines is extremely rare, but not impossible, expressing a near-constant habit with a slight acknowledgment that exceptions could exist.
3. The word "never" shows 0% frequency in a negative way, so the opposite with 100% frequency is "always" in a positive way. This makes the rewritten sentence express the same meaning.
4. Adverbs of frequency like "seldom" should go before the main verb or after the verb "to be" when it's the main verb. Starting the sentence with "seldom" requires subject-verb inversion.
5. Option a is correct because "Rarely do they..." uses inversion correctly after a negative adverbial, highlighting how unusual the behavior is. The other options use adverbs incorrectly or ungrammatically.
6. When a negative adverbial like "never before" begins a sentence, subject-auxiliary inversion is required. "Has" comes before the subject, and the adverbial phrase must stay together at the start.
7. "Invariably" means "always" or "in every case," showing that the campaigns consistently demonstrate the team's abilities. This fits the sentence's positive meaning about their reliable understanding and adaptability.
8. "Seldom" is an adverb of frequency meaning "not often." It fits well here, showing that the marketing executive rarely takes feedback lightly, which matches the serious approach described in the sentence.
9. The adverb "rarely" introduces a negative meaning, so inversion is needed. We place "has" before the subject ("the committee") to form the correct question-like structure after negative adverbs.
10. "Unfailingly" means "always, without fail," which matches the need for constant

caution. The context requires a word expressing consistent, not occasional or past, carefulness due to the risk of public scrutiny.

**11.** "Frequently" fits because the sentence describes a common, necessary action in complex negotiations. Mediators need to clarify misunderstandings often, not rarely, irregularly, or not at all, to ensure progress.

**12.** The word "rarely" fits because the sentence contrasts long meetings with little progress. "Rarely" emphasizes that breakthroughs almost never happen, matching the sense of disappointment expressed in the sentence.

**13.** "Consistently" is the best choice because it shows she maintains her optimistic outlook all the time, not just sometimes. This emphasizes regular, reliable behavior, which matches the meaning of the sentence.

**14.** "Habitually" means doing something as a routine or regular habit, which matches "often" because both refer to actions that happen many times, not rarely, never, or just sometimes.

**15.** Option b is correct because it uses each adverb of frequency with a separate verb or verb phrase, clearly showing different habits or actions and making the sentence natural and easy to understand.

**16.** The adverb "sometimes" should usually come before the main verb, so the correct placement is "sometimes goes on foot to work," not "goes on foot sometimes to work."

**17.** "Hardly ever" has nearly the same meaning as "rarely"—both describe something that almost never happens. They both express a very low frequency, making them synonyms in this context.

**18.** In English, adverbs of frequency like "always" usually go after the first auxiliary verb ("has") and before the main verb ("been") in present perfect sentences to sound natural and correct.

**19.** Option d) demonstrates constraining adverbial fronting because the negative adverbial "only infrequently" is placed at the start for strong contrastive emphasis, triggering subject-auxiliary inversion for advanced stylistic effect.

**20.** "Occasionally" suggests something happens from time to time without strong regularity, which creates a balanced, cautious tone. This subtlety is ideal for formal writing where hedging and understatement are required.