

Still, Yet, and Already

Intermediate English, Week 6, Spring 2021

Adverbs

- An *adverb* is a word we use to give us more information about a verb
- Some adverbs tell us how often we do things, or how we do them
- Today, we'll look at three adverbs that give us more information about time: *still*, *yet*, and *already*

Still

- We use *still* for something that continues longer than you think, or something that hasn't changed
- It can be used in a positive or negative sentence
 - He graduated last year but he **still** doesn't have a job.
 - She is **still** sleeping even though it is 10 AM.
- Usually, *still* is in a present simple or present continuous sentence, but we can use it with other verbs too
 - I am **still** a university student. (present simple)
 - Yesterday it snowed, and it is **still** snowing today. (present continuous)
 - He felt sick, but he **still** wanted to go to the gym. (past simple)

Yet

- *Yet* means something has not happened earlier than now
- Usually we use it in a negative sentence
 - He isn't here **yet**.
- We often use *yet* with a present verb – present simple, present continuous, or present perfect
 - I am not finished with my homework **yet**. (present simple)
 - We aren't leaving the house **yet**. (present continuous)
 - They haven't started their new job **yet**. (present perfect)

Already

- *Already* is used with something that happened before now or by now
- Use it in a positive sentence. (For negative sentences, use *yet*)
 - The children **already** finished their homework.
- It can be used with present or past verbs
 - We **already** saw that movie. Let's watch a different one. (past simple)
 - I am **already** at the restaurant. (present simple)
 - She is only 4 years old, but she has **already** learned the piano. (present perfect)

Using still/yet/already in a sentence

- *Still* goes in the middle of a sentence. Use it **after** *be* verbs and **before** other verbs
 - The plumber **is still fixing** the sink.
 - She **still works** at the hospital.
- *Yet* is usually at the end of a sentence
 - I'm not ready to go **yet**!
 - The students haven't graduated **yet**.
- *Already* is like *still*. It goes **after** *be* verbs and **before** other verbs
 - We **are already** at the restaurant.
 - He **already has** a bicycle, so he doesn't need a new one.

Fix the mistakes

1. I haven't given him his birthday present ~~already~~ ^{yet}.
2. She played basketball in high school, and she likes to play sometimes ~~still~~ ^{still}.
3. I didn't go ~~yet~~ ^{yet} grocery shopping. I'll go this afternoon.
4. It's ~~yet~~ ^{already} dark outside. We should go home soon.

Choose *still*, *yet*, or *already*

1. The food isn't ready yet. We'll eat in 20 minutes.
2. His job has long hours and the pay is low, but he still works there.
3. You already finished cleaning your room? Then you can help me do the dishes now.
4. I moved to Minnesota in 2016, but my parents still live in Florida.
5. The project is due tomorrow, but she isn't done yet. She will have to work late today.