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.

2. She played basketball in high school, and she likes to play sometimes still.

3. I didn’t go yet grocery shopping. I’ll go this afternoon.

4. It’s yet dark outside. We should go home soon.
Choose *still*, *yet*, or *already*

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