

English Grammar: Word Placement

1. Adjectives go **before** the noun (or after the verb “to be”).

Examples: I have a **big** dog.
We bought a **large, expensive** car yesterday.
I am **tired**.

2. Adverbs go **after** the verb

Examples: I eat **slowly**.
He drives his car **quickly**. (*Note: if the verb has an object, the adverb comes after*).
He drives **quickly** and **dangerously**.

Exception: He **almost** crashed his car.

However, **adverbs of frequency** (*always, never, etc.*) go **before** the verb (but **after** to be).

Examples: I **always** arrive early.
You **never** say sorry.
He **sometimes** drives quickly.
He is **always** late.
They are **usually** very friendly.

If the verb has two parts, the adverb goes **between** the two parts.

Examples: The school was **nearly** destroyed by the storm.
I can **never** remember his name.
Anne doesn't **usually** smoke.
Have you **ever** been to Paris?

For emphasis, we can put the adverb at the **beginning** or **end** of the sentence.

Examples: **Unfortunately**, I don't have any money with me.
Happily, we all survived,.

3. Already/Just. These words behave like adverbs of frequency and go **before** the verb, or **between** the two parts of the verb, but **after** the verb to be.

Examples: I am **just** a boy.
She has **just** arrived.
She **already** knows.
I am **already** late.
I have **already** had lunch.

4. Yet/Still. The word “**yet**” goes **at the end** of the sentence (with a few exceptions) and “**still**” goes **before** the verb (one or two parts), but **after** the verb to be.

Examples: I **still** haven't seen that film.
I **still** eat rice every day.
I am **still** here.
He hasn't eaten anything **yet**.
Do you know the results of the test **yet** ?

5. Too/Also/As well. “**Too**” and “**as well**” always go **at the end** of the sentence, but “**also**” goes **before** the verb, but **after** the verb “to be”, or **between** the two parts of the verb.

Examples: I love The Beatles, **too**.
I **also** love The Beatles.
I am **also** a fan of The Beatles.
I have **also** seen The Beatles play live.
He often listens to The Beatles **as well**.

Exercise. Place the given words correctly in the given sentences.

1. I have a wife. (*beautiful*) _____
2. They should buy a car. (*new*) _____
3. He is very old. He walks. (*slowly*) _____
4. I think you drive. (*fast*) _____
5. I read the newspaper on Sundays. (*always*) _____
6. We go to the beach. (*never*) _____
7. They are punctual. (*usually*) _____
8. She is very rude. (*sometimes*) _____
9. We have arrived late. (*never*) _____
10. My dog doesn't like milk. (*normally*) _____
11. I have finished my homework. (*just*) _____
12. He has been to the doctor. (*already*) _____
13. We haven't seen the new James Bond film. (*yet*) _____
14. Have you spoken to your brother? (*yet*) _____
15. We went to Paris last year. (*too*) _____
16. We went to Paris last year. (*as well*) _____
17. We have been to Paris many times. (*also*) _____
18. We are late. (*also*) _____
19. I haven't received my salary. (*still*) _____
20. I am waiting. (*still*) _____

Online Exercises:

https://www.englisch-hilfen.de/en/exercises/adjectives_adverbs/adverb_position.htm

<https://www.ego4u.com/en/cram-up/grammar/word-order/exercises?11>