

# English Grammar: “yet” vs “still” (PT: ‘ainda’)

## 1. Expectation

“yet”, “not yet” and “still not” are used to indicate an “expectation” - something will happen, but we don’t know when.

### Position

The word “yet” is always used at the end of a sentence or question, and the word “still” is used before the verb. “Not yet” and “still not” are used in statements and “yet” is used in questions. They are usually used with the Present Perfect tense, because the time of the action is not known.

Statements:

I haven’t done my homework **yet**.  
I **still** haven’t done my homework.  
John hasn’t woken up **yet**.  
John **still** hasn’t woken up.  
The rain hasn’t stopped **yet**.  
The rain **still** hasn’t stopped.

Questions:

Have you done your homework <b>yet</b> ?	Yes, I have. / <b>Not yet</b> .
Has John woken up <b>yet</b> ?	Yes, he has. / <b>Not yet</b> .
Has the rain stopped <b>yet</b> ?	Yes, it has. / <b>Not yet</b> .

## 2. A continuing situation

The word “still” is used to indicate that something is continuing and is not finished. It is usually used with the present tenses. The word “still” is used before the verb, but after the verb “to be”.

Examples:

The paint is **still** wet.  
Bob **still** works for Google.  
I am **still** waiting for the bus.  
He is **still** angry.  
We **still** live in Curitiba.  
She is **still** working.



Note: It’s possible to use both “still” and “yet” in the same sentence. For example, if you are waiting for someone to arrive:

- 4pm: A: Where is Janet? B: She hasn’t arrived **yet**. (I’m waiting for her to arrive around 6pm.)  
5pm: A: Where is Janet? B: She hasn’t arrived **yet**. (I’m waiting for her to arrive a little later.)  
6pm: A: Where is Janet? B: She hasn’t arrived **yet**. (I’m waiting for her to arrive about now.)  
7pm: A: Where is Janet? B: She **still** hasn’t arrived **yet**. (She is late. I’m **still** waiting.)

**Exercise.** Complete using “still” or “yet”:

1) A: Where are you?

B: I am \_\_\_\_\_ waiting for the doctor!

2) Have you finished the project \_\_\_\_\_ ?

3) She hasn't finished making the cakes \_\_\_\_\_ .

4) Are you \_\_\_\_\_ watching TV? I thought you had gone to bed.

5) Does he \_\_\_\_\_ work at Barney's restaurant ?

6) I \_\_\_\_\_ don't know what to do after university.

7) Has John gone to work \_\_\_\_\_ ?

8) She \_\_\_\_\_ runs every day in the park.