

Adverbial Positions - Practice

Exercise A

Read the sentences below and indicate the possible positions of the adverbs given.

Example:

(longingly) They gazed out the window at the beach. = They * _ gazed * _ out the window at the beach. The * _ indicates the possible location for the adverb **longingly**.

1. (lovingly) The young mother watched her son play.
2. (quickly) They left the building and hopped into a cab.
3. (quietly) He tucked a note into her hand and walked down the hall.
4. (in January) It is very cold.
5. (in summer) People don't wear heavy coats.
6. (rudely) The salesman was standing in the doorway asking questions.
7. (frequently) The teacher is stopped by the students.
8. (recently) The University has come out with new guidelines.
9. (randomly) The teacher chose the first presenter.
10. (at random) The teacher chose the first question.
11. (hardly) The student studied for the test, which is why he failed.

Exercise B

Correct the errors in the sentences below. (2 sentences have no errors)

Example:

I get often headaches when it is very sunny. = I **often** get headaches when it is very sunny.
(The adverb of frequency **often** should go before the verb "get")

1. She speaks well English even though she never took lessons.
2. Something very strange yesterday happened to the doctor.
3. Completely the nurse forgot to tell the doctor what the patient said.
4. He tore up the letter angrily and walked out of the room.
5. The government never would consider overturning that law.

6. Occasionally, people make mistakes.
7. I all day sat in the sun with my friends.

Answers

Exercise A:

The answers for **all** the possible positions of the adverbs given are indicated by a *.

1. (lovingly) The young mother *_ watched her son play.
2. (quickly) They _ left the building *_ and *_ hopped into a cab *_.
3. (quietly) He*_ _ tucked a note into her hand *_ and *_ walked down the hall *_.
4. (in January) *_ It is very cold *_.
5. (in summer) *_ People don't wear heavy coats *_.
6. (rudely) The salesman was *_ standing in the doorway *_ asking questions *_.
7. (frequently) The teacher is *_ stopped *_ by the students *_.
8. (recently) *_ The University has *_ come out with new guidelines *_.
9. (randomly) The teacher *_ chose the first presenter *_.
10. (at random) *_ The teacher chose the first question *_.
11. (hardly) The student *_ studied for the test, which is why he failed.

Exercise B:

The words in **bold** are the corrections for the errors. (2 sentences have no errors)

1. She speaks English **well** even though she never took lessons.
2. Something very strange happened to the doctor **yesterday**.
3. The nurse **completely** forgot to tell the doctor what the patient said.
4. He tore up the letter angrily and walked out of the room.
5. The government would **never** consider overturning that law.
6. Occasionally, people make mistakes.
7. I sat in the sun with my friends **all day**.