

Adrian Wallwork

**English
for Academic
Research:
Vocabulary Exercises**

Second Edition

English for Academic Research

Series Editor

Adrian Wallwork, English for Academics, Pisa, Italy

This series aims to help non-native, English-speaking researchers communicate in English. The books in this series are designed like manuals or user guides to help readers find relevant information quickly, and assimilate it rapidly and effectively. The author has divided each book into short subsections of short paragraphs with many bullet points.

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Chapter 1: Adjectives and adverbs



1.1 actual, current, topical

1. Their **actual / current / topical** weight was much higher than their perceived weight.
2. The **actual / current / topical** financial crisis has focused public attention on the rapid growth of homelessness. It is difficult to establish the **actual / current / topical** numbers of homeless people, as not all homeless people register as being homeless.
3. The role of privately-funded research is very **actual / current / topical**, with many seemingly inconsistent findings being published.
4. The nature of such mutations is **actual / current / topical** and receiving increasing attention in the literature.
5. Several thousand people have been reported as dying, but the **actual / current / topical** number is still not known.
6. Hundreds of people are dying, and the **actual / current / topical** number of dead stands at 565.
7. I am not the **actual / current / topical** owner of the patent, I just invented the device.
8. The **actual / current / topical** value of this approach is less than many people claim.
9. The **actual / current / topical** value of the euro has been pushed by the fall in the dollar.
10. We consider an issue that is particularly **actual / current / topical** in view of the burgeoning interest in the potential of stem cell therapy, namely the reprogramming of gene expression.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. actual | 6. current |
| 2. current, actual | 7. actual |
| 3. topical | 8. actual |
| 4. topical | 9. current |
| 5. actual | 10. topical |

1.2 actually, currently, nowadays

1. **Nowadays / Currently / Actually** the use of wireless connections is undergoing a radical change.
2. This raises the issue of whether placebo treatments **nowadays / currently / actually** influence the outcome of the illness or not.
3. This product was once very expensive to manufacture. However **nowadays / currently / actually** it is much cheaper, **nowadays / currently / actually** it hardly costs anything at all.
4. Are some supposedly poor schools **nowadays / currently / actually** rich in other ways?
5. There is no evidence that categorically shows that cannabis **nowadays / currently / actually** stunts the growth of fetuses.

1. currently
2. actually
3. nowadays, actually [currently]
4. actually
5. actually

1.3 advisable, convenient, comfortable

1. It is not **convenient / advisable / comfortable** to do more than one test at a time.
2. Organizing a conference on this topic would be a **convenient / advisable / comfortable** way of getting everyone interested together in one room.
3. Holding the conference on a pacific island would be fun but not very **convenient / advisable / comfortable** for most attendees.
4. It would be **convenient / advisable / comfortable** to set up an organizing committee as soon as possible.
5. The beds in the hotel were particularly **convenient / advisable / comfortable**.
6. Let me know what time it would be **convenient / advisable / comfortable** for you to meet.

1. advisable
2. convenient
3. convenient
4. advisable
5. comfortable
6. convenient

1.4 all, entire, everything, whole

1. It is possible to do the **all / entire / everything / whole** operation without an anesthetic.
2. Our goals are for the **all / entire / everything / whole** year and beyond.
3. We are doing **all / entire / everything / whole** possible to minimize disturbance.
4. They are not expected to learn **all / entire / everything / whole** they need from the course.
5. Taken as a **all / entire / everything / whole**, the software has **all / entire / everything / whole** the rules it needs to convert the statistics into understandable data.
6. It is believed that **all / entire / everything / whole** of reality is material. The **all / entire / everything / whole** universe is the result of material forces and **all / entire / everything / whole** that exists has some kind of body.
7. There is a / an **all / entire / everything / whole** book dedicated to **all / entire / everything / whole** that has ever been written about the topic.
8. **All / Entire / Everything / Whole** vertebrate genomes have two things in common.
9. The hurricane destroyed **all / entire / everything / whole** in its path, including **all / entire / everything / whole** homes. Families and neighbors fed and housed **all / entire / everything / whole** those who had lost their homes.
10. Increased **all / entire / everything / whole** body protein breakdown predominates over increased **all / entire / everything / whole** body protein synthesis in multiple organ failure.

1. entire / whole, everything

2. entire / whole

3. everything

4. everything, entire, all

5. whole, all

6. all, entire / whole, all / everything

7. entire / whole, everything

8. all

9. everything, entire, all

10. whole / whole

1.5 almost, hard, hardly, nearly, everything, entire, all

1. We have **almost / hardly / nearly** completed the first draft – it should be ready tomorrow.
2. They **nearly never / hardly ever** achieve their goals.
3. These substances are **almost / hardly** insoluble.
4. There is **almost / hardly** any loss in temperature.
5. They could **almost / hardly** have learned ten languages at the same time.
6. If the students work **hard / hardly** they will pass their exam.

1. almost / nearly
2. hardly ever
3. almost
4. hardly
5. hardly
6. hard

1.6 alone, only, solely

1. Obesity is not caused by over-eating **alone / only / solely**.
2. **Alone / Only / Solely** in certain cases does this behavior cause anxiety.
3. This is risky **alone / only / solely** in terms of the environment but not financially.
4. Useful results can be obtained **alone / only / solely** when the ions are solvated **alone / only / solely** by the most polar component of the mixed solvent.
5. Many women experiencing abuse feel **alone / only / solely** and ashamed.
6. This evidence **alone / only / solely** is not enough to condemn someone to a life in prison.

1. alone
2. only
3. solely (only)
4. solely (only), only (solely)
5. alone
6. alone

1.7 alone, individual, only, single, sole, unique

1. When treated with this drug **alone / only / sole**, in the first test only three of patients had side effects.
2. This factor **alone / only / sole** cannot be considered the main reason why...
3. The **alone / sole / unique** source of this mineral is...
4. The department is under the **individual / sole / unique** direction of Professor X.
5. This is the **alone / only / unique** way to solve the problem.
6. This species is **alone / only / unique** to the island.
7. However, it also displays some **individual / sole / unique** features, which make this system particularly attractive.
8. These were given to each **individual / single / unique** student.
9. The remaining 22.2% of events were classified as **alone / only / unique** cases since each event was detected in just one **alone / individual / single**.
10. The transition from a / an **individual / single / sole** mother **alone / only / solely** with a / an **only / sole / unique** source of income, to a / an **single / only / unique** mother with stepfather increases the risk for girls but raises the family income. Boys were primarily at risk **only / sole / unique** when...

1. alone
2. alone
3. sole
4. sole
5. only

6. unique
7. unique
8. individual
9. unique, individual
10. single, alone, sole, single, only

1.8 alternate(ly), alternative(ly)

1. They suggested several **alternate / alternative** solutions, all of which were unfeasible.
2. We investigated couples who had decided to live in **alternate / alternative** societies.
3. **Alternately / Alternatively**, the same result can be achieved by raising the first two values.
4. They advise reading the two types of books in **alternate / alternative** order, rather than beginning by reading all those books of the same type.
5. They seem to **alternately / alternatively** help each other and destroy each other.
6. Sampling took place on **alternate / alternative** days.
7. We are unable to meet at that time, could you suggest some **alternate / alternative** times?
8. Girls and boys were lined up in a row, **alternately / alternatively** boy girl boy girl.
9. Three weeks of **alternate / alternative** -day fasting was insufficient to produce this response.
10. We are trying to find **alternate / alternative** methods to the current very invasive techniques.

1. alternative
2. alternative
3. alternatively
4. alternate
5. alternately

6. alternate
7. alternative
8. alternately
9. alternate
10. alternative

1.9 always, ever, never

1. Snoring was reported as “**always / ever / never** or rarely” in 12 patients, “sometimes” in 21 and “often or **always / ever / never**” in 32.
2. This problem has until now **always / ever / never** been recognized as being untreatable. But now there is hope that...
3. He felt that his family was **always / ever / never** -present even when he had left home.
4. They had not **always / ever / never** been treated for this illness before.
5. Patients were asked the following questions. (1) Have you **always / ever / never** smoked? (2) Have you...

1. never, always
2. always
3. ever
4. ever
5. ever

1.10 apparently, seemingly

1. This is known as a ‘black moon’ and **apparently / seemingly** it only happens under very particular environmental conditions.
2. It looks innocuous and is thus often perceived as a / an **apparently / seemingly** harmless substance, whereas in fact it is highly toxic.
3. These **apparently / seemingly** divergent views are not actually so different. In fact,...
4. Only one in four patients **apparently / seemingly** thought that their pathology was incurable.
5. From 1999 to 2013, over 500 patients survived a / an **apparently / seemingly** complete removal of a histologically benign intracranial tumor.

1. apparently
2. apparently / seemingly
3. apparently / seemingly
4. apparently
5. seemingly (apparently)

1.11 appropriate, proper, right, suitable

1. There is no **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** way of dealing with infidelity – the choice will entirely depend on the spouse.
 2. He felt that his wife's behavior with his male friends was not **appropriate / proper / right / suitable**.
 3. Maximization can be achieved by finding **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** values for the optical flow velocity.
 4. This method is **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** for small- and large-scale screening.
 5. In what sense do people support family members because they see it as 'the **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** thing to do'?
 6. The torque, speed and position must be set precisely to the **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** values in order for the machine to function – these values can be found in the user manual.
 7. The aim is to identify values that are **appropriate / proper / right / suitable** for this kind of investigation.
-
1. right / proper
 2. appropriate (suitable)
 3. appropriate / suitable
 4. suitable (appropriate)
 5. proper / right
 6. right
 7. appropriate / suitable

1.12 appropriate(ly), convenient(ly), correct(ly), proper(ly), right(ly)

1. The parameters can be adapted **appropriately / properly / rightly** to the intensity required.
2. It is necessary to choose a / an **appropriate / proper / right** device to perform this task.
3. Classifying these chromophores on the basis of their class is essential in order to choose the **proper / right / suitable** extraction procedure.
4. These are located **appropriately / conveniently / correctly** near the entrance to allow for easy access.
5. Given the possible build up of dust in the laboratory, **appropriate / convenient / proper** venting arrangements are required.
6. We used a Bayesian method to select **convenient / proper / suitable** samples.
7. This method is not particularly **appropriate / convenient / proper** as it is difficult to perform and access to the data is heavily restricted.
8. This kind of diet is not **appropriate / convenient / proper** for the health of many people as it contains too many carbohydrates.
9. As the authors **properly / rightly / suitably** state, the data need to be examined **appropriately / properly / rightly** before drawing any conclusions.
10. A sensitive mother is aware of her child's behavior and can thus interpret it **correctly / conveniently / rightly**, and respond promptly and **appropriately / correctly / properly**.
11. Time and money can be saved when cooked foods that are **correct / proper / suitable** for freezing are **conveniently / properly / suitably** wrapped, frozen, and store.
12. In their book, "**Appropriately / Correctly / Properly** Posed Problems of Mathematics", the authors state that...

1. appropriately

2. appropriate

3. right

4. conveniently

5. appropriate (proper)

6. suitable

7. convenient (appropriate)

8. appropriate

9. rightly, properly

10. correctly, appropriately

11. suitable, properly / suitably

12. properly

1.13 at present, currently, now, nowadays

1. Although it was thought that this disease had been eradicated, it is **at present / currently / now / nowadays** making a return.
2. **At present / Currently / Now / Nowadays** nearly all European countries are concerned by this disease, whereas in the past it was not considered a major threat.
3. **At present / Currently / Now / Nowadays**, the disease is not present in the Netherlands but is expected to spread from Belgium.
4. **At present / Currently / Now / Nowadays** three strands of the disease are known, but there could be more. In fact, there is **at present / currently / now / nowadays** a theoretical conjecture that...
5. Although still extremely expensive, some solid state laser sources have **at present / currently / now / nowadays** become commercially available.
6. Unfortunately, **at present / currently / now / nowadays** such detectors are not commercially available, but alternative types of detection are **at present / currently / now / nowadays** being used to reduce the...
7. Until recently women were rarely employed to do such work. However **at present / currently / now / nowadays**, nearly two thirds of those employed in this sector are women.
8. This paper deals with a topic which is **at present / currently / now / nowadays** of great scientific interest – online publishing. Most online publishers **at present / currently / now / nowadays** have a mix of journals, books, subscription-based materials and databases. But the situation in the US **at present / currently / now / nowadays** is quite different.

1. now / currently / at present
2. nowadays
3. at present / currently
4. at present [currently], currently
5. now
6. nowadays [at present / currently / now]
7. nowadays
8. currently [at present], nowadays [currently], at present

1.14 characteristic, peculiar, typical, unique

1. Cells can be identified by their **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** morphology.
2. Polygamy is not **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** of all the members of the tribe, in fact it appears to be **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** to those members living on the outside of the village.
3. This produces a rather **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** mushroom-like shape not found in other species.
4. A **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** of heavy smokers is the so-called “smokers’ cough.”
5. His signature on this document differed considerably from his **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** signature and this led historians to believe that a forgery may have been involved.
6. This species is **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** to Easter Island.
7. This **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** appearance of fibrinoid necrosis is **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** to males.
8. She categorized her husband’s lack of communication as being ‘**characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique**’ of men and was therefore not something she worried unduly about
9. His behavior was deemed ‘**characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique**’ by his colleagues and certainly not **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** of a man in his position.
10. UGC 6614 is **characteristic / peculiar / typical / unique** among the galaxies in the sample in that it is...

1. characteristic (typical)

2. typical, unique

3. peculiar

4. characteristic

5. typical

6. unique

7. characteristic, peculiar (unique)

8. typical

9. peculiar, typical

10. unique

1.15 classic, classical

1. Despite its obvious limitation, this book remains a **classic / classical** in its field.
2. Their paper on the mathematical methods of **classic / classical** mechanics can be found in:
3. There is already a well-known application of **classic / classical** solutions: the calculation of the Zhang loop.
4. This is just one of the **classic / classical** books that have had a massive influence on Chinese medical thought for more than two millennia.
5. Her interest in jazz as opposed to **classic / classical** music began when a friend played her some **classic / classical** jazz tracks from the 1950s. From that moment she never turned back.

1. classic
2. classical
3. classical
4. classical (classic)
5. classical, classic

1.16 coherent(ly), consistent(ly)

1. This line of thinking is completely **coherent / consistent** with Sumaki [2015].
2. The findings of the authors are not **coherent / consistent** and appear to differ from experiment to experiment.
3. There is no **coherent / consistent** structure to the paper, particularly the Introduction, where the literature seems to be presented in a random order.
4. The patient was unable to express herself **coherently / consistently**.
5. The predictions of religious sect leaders have been **coherently / consistently** wrong, yet despite this they have thousands of followers.

1. consistent
2. consistent
3. coherent
4. coherently
5. consistently

1.17 coherent(ly), consistent(ly), substantial(ly)

1. Our results are **coherent / consistent / substantial** with previous findings that also indicated that x is greater than y.
2. His blood pressure was **coherently / consistently / substantially** high throughout the three-month testing period.
3. The stock market has made **coherent / consistent / substantial** gains since the end of the economic crisis.
4. Our values are not **coherently / consistently / substantially** different from theirs, in fact in many cases they are in complete agreement.
5. The authors should be **coherent / consistent / substantial** with their numbering and labeling system.

1. consistent
2. consistently
3. substantial
4. substantially
5. consistent

1.18 common, diffuse, widespread

1. Malaria is a **common / diffuse / widespread** disease in certain parts of African and is **common / diffuse / widespread** throughout Kenya.
 2. The condition is more **common / diffuse / widespread** geographically than policy makers would seem to believe.
 3. Chest pains were recorded in 17 patients and were generally **common / diffuse / widespread** and unrelated to...
 4. In the sample of 143 subjects that we analyzed, colorectal cancer was the second most **common / diffuse / widespread** form of cancer death.
 5. **Common / Diffuse / Widespread** pain is sufficient to diagnose fibrositis.
 6. The effects of lack of government spending are **common / diffuse / widespread** and affect most disciplines.
 7. These fish types, which are **common / diffuse / widespread** throughout the world, constitute one of the most conspicuous and **common / diffuse / widespread** coastal ecosystem types.
 8. Our procedure is based on methods used in thermal engineering. It includes the effects of **common / diffuse / widespread** light sources of over wide areas of sports grounds.
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1. common / widespread, widespread/common
 2. widespread (diffuse)
 3. diffuse (widespread)
 4. common
 5. diffuse (widespread)
 6. widespread
 7. widespread (common), common (widespread)
 8. diffuse