

Activity Type

Grammar Exercises: matching, binary choice, error correction, sentence completion

Speaking Activity: asking and answering questions, controlled and freer practice (pair work)

Focus

Adverbial phrases

Aim

To practice 12 adverbial phrases and use them to comment on specific situations.

Preparation

Make one copy of the two-page worksheet for each student.

Level

Upper-intermediate (B2)

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this adverbial phrases worksheet, students practice 12 adverbial phrases and use them to comment on specific situations.

Procedure

Give each student a copy of the two-page worksheet.

First, students complete each adverbial phrase beginning with its appropriate ending and write the matching letter at the end.

Exercise A - Answer key

- | | | | |
|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. j | 4. f | 7. l | 10. c |
| 2. g | 5. i | 8. d | 11. e |
| 3. a | 6. b | 9. k | 12. h |

Students then circle the best adverbial phrase to complete each sentence.

Exercise B - Answer key

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. taking the long view | 6. on a positive note |
| 2. looking back | 7. at first glance |
| 3. without a doubt | 8. once and for all |
| 4. practically speaking | 9. until recently |
| 5. at the end of the day | 10. leaving that aside |

Next, students find adverbial phrase mistakes in sentences and correct them.

Exercise C - Answer key

1. The trip sounds amazing, but practically speaking, I'm not sure I can afford it.
2. I enjoyed my experience at university, but looking back, I'm not sure how much I learned.
3. Without a doubt, my favourite food is pizza.
4. At first glance, the book seems like a typical romance, but it has many surprising moments.
5. Although there were many challenges, at the end of the day, the event was a great success.
6. The budget is important, but leaving that aside, we also need to consider the timing.

After that, students complete sentences that include adverbial phrases with their own ideas and then compare their answers with a partner.

Finally, students ask and answer conversation questions with their partner using adverbial phrases from a box in their responses, ticking the adverbial phrases they use. Encourage students to try to use each adverbial phrase at least once during the activity.

A. Complete each adverbial phrase beginning with its appropriate ending and write the matching letter at the end.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Practically | a. long view |
| 2. At the end | b. back |
| 3. Taking the | c. reality |
| 4. On a | d. for all |
| 5. In the grand | e. aside |
| 6. Looking | f. positive note |
| 7. At first | g. of the day |
| 8. Once and | h. a doubt |
| 9. Until | i. scheme of things |
| 10. In | j. speaking |
| 11. Leaving that | k. recently |
| 12. Without | l. glance |



B. Circle the best adverbial phrase to complete each sentence.

- While we have had some failures, *taking the long view / until recently*, I believe the project will ultimately succeed.
- It was a great experience, but *at first glance / looking back*, I probably wouldn't do it again.
- My house is, *leaving that aside / without a doubt*, the most expensive thing I've ever bought.
- I love dogs, but *practically speaking / on a positive note*, cats are easier to take care of.
- We often argue, but *at the end of the day / at first glance*, we both want the company to succeed.
- I've been ill, but *practically speaking / on a positive note*, I've had time to watch my favourite films.
- In reality / At first glance*, it seemed like a bargain, but I later discovered some hidden costs.
- I'm tired of arguing. Let's settle this disagreement *once and for all / in the grand scheme of things* and find a compromise that works for everyone.
- Until recently / Looking back*, I'd never considered buying a car, but I'm starting to wish I had one.
- I failed the exam, but *leaving that aside / once and for all*, I think I learned a lot from the class.

C. Underline the mistake in each sentence and correct it.

1. The trip sounds amazing, but practical speaking, I'm not sure I can afford it.
2. I enjoyed my experience at university, but look back, I'm not sure how much I learned.
3. Without doubt, my favourite food is pizza.
4. At first look, the book seems like a typical romance, but it has many surprising moments.
5. Although there were many challenges, in the end of the day, the event was a great success.
6. The budget is important, but leaving that apart, we also need to consider the timing.

D. Complete the sentences with your own ideas and then compare your answers with a partner.

1. isn't important in the grand scheme of things.
2. Taking the long view, it's important to
3. Looking back, I don't think I'd again.
4. Without a doubt, the best

E. Ask and answer the conversation questions with your partner using the adverbial phrases from the box below in your responses. Tick the adverbial phrases you use. Try to use each adverbial phrase at least once.

1. Are we too dependent on technology nowadays?
2. Does school prepare young people for the real world? Why or why not?
3. What changes would you like to make in your city or town? Why?
4. Do you think it's important to learn a second language? Why or why not?
5. What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in a big city?
6. What are the pros and cons of working in an office versus working remotely?
7. What hobbies and free-time activities are popular nowadays? Have you tried any of them?
8. How might travel and tourism change in the future?



Adverbial Phrases			
at the end of the day		in the grand scheme of things	until recently
practically speaking		looking back	in reality
taking the long view		at first glance	leaving that aside
on a positive note		once and for all	without a doubt