

Comparing similar adverbs

HSK 5 Grammar

Use the examples with their context and limits. Recall a sentence before reading the model. Original teaching additions accompany examples adapted from Chinese Grammar Wiki (AllSet Learning, CC BY-NC-SA); see the course reference provenance.

vs (often / regularly)

■ Choose an often-word without inventing a fixed schedule

- A person is frequently late.
- – Both adverbs can describe frequent lateness in this example.

■ Build the form

- The pattern in this lesson is **vs (often / regularly)**. Locate it in the original interlinear examples below.
- Keep the words in their demonstrated positions; the pattern must fit the intended situation as well as the sentence form.

tā cháng cháng chí dào

Word guide: – he; – often; – be late.

■ Read examples in context

wǒ jīng cháng yùan dòng

Word guide: – I; – regularly; – exercise.

- In the opening example, : Both adverbs can describe frequent lateness in this example.
- Explain who acts, what is described and which time or group is relevant before choosing an English paraphrase.

■ Know the boundary

- Neither word specifies an exact number of occasions.
- can also appear in adjectival expressions such as , where is not interchangeable.

■ Use the distinction

- Both adverbs can describe frequent lateness in this example.
- Neither word specifies an exact number of occasions. can also appear in adjectival expressions such as , where is not interchangeable.

■ Try it with help closed

A person is frequently late. Close the examples. Say a Mandarin response, then write it in Chinese. Explain briefly in English what the lesson's pattern adds. Compare with the model, then change one detail and try again.

One possible response:

- My response conveys a message that fits the opening situation.
- I can explain the meaning of the pattern, rather than only naming it.
- Neither word specifies an exact number of occasions.
- can also appear in adjectival expressions such as , where is not interchangeable.
- I tried a second response with a name, time, place, or description changed.

Practise this pattern step by step.