

USING HELPING VERBS TO MAKE NEGATIVE SENTENCES.

To make a negative sentence, you need to use the word "not". Normally, we first have an affirmative (positive) and change it to a negative sentence.

The opposite form of the word yes is no. In a similar way, the opposite of the statement, "He has books" is "He has no books" or "He does not have books". Yes is an affirmative word while No is a negative word. Therefore, "He has books" is an affirmative statement while "He does not have books" is a negative one. "No" or "Not" are negative words.

Common negative words.

no, nobody, no one, none, not, not ever, nothing, scarcely, never, hardly, barely etc.

Examples

Aff: He speaks English.

Neg: He does not speak English.

Aff: She speaks Kinyarwanda.

Neg: She does not speak Kinyarwanda.

Aff: I can repair this lock.

Neg: I cannot repair this lock.

Aff: We gave her something.

Neg: We did not give her anything.

Aff: Someone has that money.

Neg: No one has that money.

Aff: I am going home.

Neg: I am not going home.

Aff: We are dancing.

Neg: We are not dancing.

Examples

Write ten sentences in affirmative and later change them to negative.

Aff: I should go to town.

Neg: I should not go to town.

Aff: I am going to watch cartoons at night.

Neg: I am not going to watch cartoons at night.

Aff: We shall run in the morning.

Neg: We shall not run in the morning.

Aff: We are going to participate in swimming competitions.

Neg: We are not going to participate in swimming competitions.

Aff: It is time for breakfast.

Neg: It is not time for breakfast.

Aff: I can make a ball.

Neg: I cannot make a ball.

Aff: We shall go on a trip.

Neg: We shall not go on a trip.

Aff: I can expect a division one in the examinations we did.

Neg: I cannot expect a division one in the examinations we did.

Aff: Japps will go with me to the town.

Neg: Japps will not go with me to the town.

Aff: I am going to the market.

Neg: I am not going to the market.

Note: We need to note that scarcely, hardly and barely are not complete negatives. They are near negatives.

Using helping verbs to form interrogative sentences

Interrogative sentences are sentences formed by the use of helping verbs. Helping verbs start the sentence and a question mark is put at the end of the sentence. Interrogative sentences ask questions. We always use questioning words like what, why, how, when, who, which, where, etc. to begin the interrogative sentences. At times, we use helping verbs like do, does, did, is, had, has, have, will, was and others when beginning our questions.

E.g

1. Why is she crying?
2. Does she speak English?
3. Will you attend the meeting?

Examples

1. **Pos:** He will find me here.
Int: Will he find me here?
2. **Pos:** I can tell you now.
Int: Can I tell you now?
3. **Pos:** She is smart.
Int: Is she smart?
4. **Pos:** We shall go to Kampala.
Int: Shall we go to Kampala?

More Examples

Write ten sentences in affirmative and change them into negative and then after change them to interrogative.

1. **Pos:** We shall visit our uncle.
Neg: We shall not visit our uncle.
Int: Shall we visit our uncle?
2. **Pos:** Mum will go to upcountry.

Neg: Mum will not go to upcountry.

Int: Will mum go to upcountry?

3. **Pos:** Japps will go swimming.

Neg: Japps will not go swimming.

Int: Will Japps go swimming?

4. **Pos:** This must be a difficult work.

Neg: This must not be a difficult work.

Int: Must this be a difficult work?

5. **Pos:** I was playing football.

Neg: I was not playing football.

Int: Was I playing football.

6. **Pos:** Kasoro will be in the storage building.

Neg: Kasoro will not be in the storage building.

Int: Will Kasoro be in the storage building?

7. **Pos:** We have done the teacher's work.

Neg: We have not done the teacher's work.

Int: Have we done the teacher's work?

8. **Pos:** They are going to the kitchen.

Neg: They are not going to the kitchen.

Int: Are they going to the kitchen?

9. **Pos:** I should go to Kenya.

Neg: I should not go to Kenya.

Int: Should I go to Kenya?

10. **Pos:** We would bathe in a minute.

Neg: We would not bathe in a minute.

Int: Would we bathe in a minute?

Use of "some" and "any"

➤ **Some**

- It is used to mean or describe a small amount of something.
- Some is only used in affirmative/positive sentences.
- In negative and interrogative sentences "some" changes to "any".

Examples

1. **Aff:** There's some sugar in the compound.

Neg: There isn't any sugar in the compound.

Int: Is there any sugar in the compound?

2. **Aff:** I have some money.

Neg: I don't have any money.

Int: Do I have any money?

3. **Aff:** There is some juice in the glass.

Neg: There isn't any juice in the glass.

Int: Is there any juice in the glass?

4. **Aff:** There were some people in some houses calling for some boys.

Neg: There weren't any people in any houses calling for any boys.

Int: Were there any people in any houses calling for any boys?

5. **Aff:** I have bought some food.

Neg: I have not bought any food.

Int: Have I bought any food?

- It is used when expecting the answer "yes" to the question.

Examples

1. Would you like some coffee?
2. Have you some money to spend?
3. Would you like some chips and chicken?

- It is used to mean not all.

Examples

1. Some people like travelling.
2. Some traders make a lot of money.

N.B: Some and its compounds are used in affirmative sentences only, i.e someone, somebody, something, somewhere etc.

More examples

Change to negative and interrogative.

1. **Pos:** Henry took some oranges in a basin.
Neg: Henry didn't take any oranges in a basin.
Int: Did Henry take any oranges in a basin?
2. **Pos:** She has some papers in her bag.
Neg: She doesn't have any papers in her bag.
Neg: She hasn't any papers in her bag.
Int: Does she have any papers in her bag?
Int: Has she any papers in her bag?
3. **Pos:** There is something today in the house of the Lord.
Neg: There isn't anything today in the house of the Lord.
Int: Is there anything today in the house of the Lord?

4. **Pos:** I am reading some news articles now.

Neg: I am not reading any news articles now.

Int: Am I reading any news articles now?

5. **Pos:** I have given her some books and some pens.

Neg: I haven't given her any books and any pens.

Int: Have I given her any books and any pens.

Activity

Spelling exercise

Abstinence

Reception

Succeeded

Hindrance

Preferred

Deception

Seamstress

Librarian

Invigilator

Abattoir

Ghanaian

Energetic

Pedestrian

Temporary

Twelfth

Forty-ninth

Reverend

Burial

Dyeing

Dying

Pronunciation

Activity:

Make the following sentences (a) negative, (b) interrogative:

1. The boys have taken some lemonade to camp.
2. They have got some tents.
3. There is some difficulty about the payment.
4. There is some chalk in that drawer.
5. They found some cracks near the edge of the bank.
6. The boys took some books from my table.
7. He found some cheese on the floor.
8. He left some luggage at the hotel.
9. They saw some smoke on the other bank of the river.
10. His father gave him some new clothes.
11. He saw somebody there.
12. He asked someone the way.
13. The driver saw somebody in front of him.
14. There is something on the table.
15. There was someone in the camp.
16. The treasure is somewhere in the ground.
17. He felt something.

18. He saw somebody he did not know at the party.

19. You need some more blue ones.

20. It is somewhere in this room.

Management:

The Bridge to Success

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Bright Nicholas', written on a light gray background.

Contact me for more English tips and work.