**Either-Or Vs Neither-Nor: English Grammar**

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Have you ever imagined trying to build a masterpiece without any support or foundation given to it? Do you think the structure would hold for a longer time? No, it would not and would fall apart very easily. As the support is very essential for any masterpiece to hold on, similarly it is significant for the English language to have support in the form of grammar. Without proper use of grammar each sentence is just a jumbled pile of words! Today, English grammar has become one of the most important elements of your language study. This is because it is an indispensable factor while choosing your career, as every field deals with daily communication and negotiation.

In the following blog, we will be discussing how either-or and neither-nor can be used in sentences differently and how the sentences change the formation without changing the meaning of it.

The first and foremost thing is to know that’either’ is only paired with ‘or’ and ‘neither’ is only paired with ‘nor’. This is the English grammar rule and if you try to mismatch it, then the sentences would not be appropriate.

Let's start by understanding the example given below:

“I am afraid of man nor beast!” Rosh proclaimed as Joe stared at the python coiled on the branch over his head. (This is a **wrong** statement.)

“I am afraid of **neither** man **nor** beast!” Rosh proclaimed as Joe stared at the python coiled on the branch over his head. (Now this one is **Right!**)

**Let’s see the perfect use of Either-Or**

‘Either’ is always used there is a comparison between two ideas, and only one of the ideas will be cleared. For example:

“Well,” said Joe to Marie, “**either** you start fearing, **or** you are camping by yourself.”

Once we have understood the usage of ‘**either-or**’, its time to learn about ‘**neither-nor**’.

The word ‘Neither’ signifies that the two ideas or sentences are linked together. It’s sort of like negative conjunction in a sentence. But you will have to always make sure that if you are using ‘neither’, then your sentence should not have any other negatives preceding it. If you sometime prefer to use a negative, then you want to use either.

For example you can the the proper use of ‘neither-nor’ and ‘either-or’.

* Joe had seen **neither** the snake **nor** the wasp’s nest on the first tree and was preparing to stake his tarp in that less-than-safe location.
* Joe had **not** seen **either** the snake **or** the wasp’s nest on the first tree and was preparing to stake his tarp in that less-than-safe location.

Let’s see some other example to understand it in a better way: Either/or and neither/nor

1. Either/or should always be used in a sentence in the affirmative sense when you are referring to a choice between two possibilities.

* You can either eat now or after the party - it's up to you.

2. Neither / nor should always be used in a sentence in the negative sense when you want to say that two or more things are not true in a sentence.

* Neither my mother nor my father went to university for higher studies.

As you can see English grammar may seem to be daunting sometime, but learning to understand it and use it appropriately is incredibly rewarding. You are always free to make mistakes and keep learning from new things and the previous mistakes you made. You should never be afraid to make mistakes as you practice English as this is the best way to learn! If you’re determined and committed to tackling grammar, it can be an absorbing and even exciting aspect of learning a new language.

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