

No/none/any Nothing/nobody etc.**A****No and none**

We use **no** + *noun*. **No** = **not a** or **not any**:

- ☐ We had to walk home because there was **no bus**. (= there **wasn't a** bus)
- ☐ Sue will have **no trouble** finding a job. (= Sue **won't have any** trouble ...)
- ☐ There were **no shops** open. (= There **weren't any** shops open.)

You can use **no** + *noun* at the beginning of a sentence:

- ☐ **No reason** was given for the change of plan.

We use **none** *without* a noun:

- ☐ 'How much money do you have?' '**None.**' (= no money)
- ☐ All the tickets have been sold. There are **none** left. (= no tickets left)

Or we use **none of** ... :

- ☐ This money is all yours. **None of it** is mine.

Compare **none** and **any**:

- ☐ 'How much luggage do you have?' '**None.**' / 'I **don't** have **any**.'

After **none of** + *plural* (none of **the students**, none of **them** etc.) the verb can be singular or plural.

A plural verb is more usual:

- ☐ None of the shops **were** (or **was**) open.

B**Nothing nobody/no-one nowhere**

You can use these words at the beginning of a sentence or alone (as answers to questions):

- ☐ 'What's going to happen?' '**Nobody** (or **No-one**) knows.'
- ☐ 'What happened?' '**Nothing.**'
- ☐ 'Where are you going?' '**Nowhere.** I'm staying here.'

You can also use these words after a verb, especially after **be** and **have**:

- ☐ The house is empty. There's **nobody** living there.
- ☐ We **had nothing** to eat.

Nothing/nobody etc. = **not** + **anything/anybody** etc. :

- ☐ I said **nothing**. = I **didn't** say **anything**.
- ☐ Jane told **nobody** about her plans. = Jane **didn't** tell **anybody** about her plans.
- ☐ They have **nowhere** to live. = They **don't** have **anywhere** to live.

With **nothing/nobody** etc., do *not* use a negative verb (**isn't**, **didn't** etc.):

- ☐ I **said** nothing. (not I **didn't** say nothing)

C

After **nobody/no-one** you can use **they/them/their** (see also Unit 85E):

- ☐ **Nobody** is perfect, are **they**? (= is he or she perfect)
- ☐ **No-one** did what I asked **them** to do. (= him or her)
- ☐ **Nobody** in the class did **their** homework. (= his or her homework)

D

Sometimes **any/anything/anybody** etc. means 'it doesn't matter which/what/who' (see Unit 85D).

Compare **no-** and **any-**:

- ☐ There was **no** bus, so we walked home.
You can take **any** bus. They all go to the centre. (= it doesn't matter which)
- ☐ 'What do you want to eat?' '**Nothing.** I'm not hungry.'
I'm so hungry. I could eat **anything**. (= it doesn't matter what)
- ☐ The exam was extremely difficult. **Nobody** passed. (= everybody failed)
The exam was very easy. **Anybody** could have passed. (= it doesn't matter who)