

20. 부정 Negation

부정어의 종류

◇ 품사에 따른 분류

- 부사 : not, never, hardly, scarcely, seldom, rarely, nowhere, (no, none, neither, little)
- 대명사(한정사) : none(no), nothing, no one, nobody, neither, few, little, but(관계대명사)
- 접속사 : nor, unless
- 접두어(prefix) : un-, in-, il-, im-, ir-, dis-, non-
- 접미어(suffix) : -less

1. **never** (adv.)

① Not ever; on no occasion; at no time in the past or future

(ex.) I've never seen such a pathetic scene.

② Not at all; in no way; absolutely not

(ex.) What is morally wrong can never be politically right.

2. **no**

① (determiner) Not any; not one

(ex.) There's no chance of us getting there by eight.

② (adv.) Not at all; not by any degree (*Often used with the comparative*)

(ex.) He was no **heavier** than a child.

3. none

① (pron.) No one, not one; not any

(ex.) None of the packages was for me.

None of my classmates passed the test.

② (adv.) Not at all; in no way

(ex.) He seemed none **too** pleased with his dinner.

(ex.) The jeans looked **none the better** for having been washed. (⇔ none the worse)

4. little

① (determiner. pron. adv.) not much; almost none

(ex.) We gave it little thought.

Little is known about how babies perceive and process words and sounds.

He works long hours and sleeping little.

② Not in the least; not at all

(ex.) They little expected such a generous gift.

Little did I know that she was married. (know, think, realize)

어구부정. 부분부정. 이중부정

◇ 술어 동사에 not, never 등을 붙여 문장 전체의 내용을 부정하는 것과, 특정한 단어, 구, 절의 내용만을 부정하는 '어구 부정'을 구별해야 한다.

▶ 어구 부정의 예

(ex.) They visit me not infrequently.

Not surprisingly, he was late again.

That was not too sympathetic a report about her.

I saw Mary not long ago.

She didn't go to the party because she wanted to see him.

◇ 해당되는 대상의 일부에게만 부정이 적용되는 것을 '**부분부정**'이라고 부른다.

완전히, 전적으로 : absolutely, altogether, completely, entirely, quite, wholly

항상 : always, generally, necessarily, exactly

모두 : all, both, each, entire, every, every-, whole

(ex.) All the pupils believed his story.

Not all the pupils believed his story. =

No pupils believed his story.

(ex.) I've read both of the reports.

I haven't read both of the reports. =

I've read _____ of the reports. = I haven't read _____ of the reports.

(ex.) Children always obey their parents.

Children don't always obey their parents. =

Children _____ obey their parents.

◇ 하나의 문장 안에 부정어가 두 개 있을 때, **이중부정(Double negative)**이라고 한다. 이중부정은 결국 **‘강한 긍정’**의 의미로 귀결된다.

(ex.) There was no one who did not pass the qualifying test.

=

It is not unusual for a family to have more than one car to use in daily life.

=

Nobody has nothing to eat.

= There is nobody who has nothing to eat. =

The dog never crosses a street without stopping at the curb.

=

☞ 하지만 이중부정문의 느낌이 꼭 긍정문과 같다고 볼 수는 없다. 예컨대 “I don't disagree.”는 “I certainly agree”의 의미로 볼 수도 있지만, “You may be right, although I am not sure.” 혹은 “There is no mistake in what you say, but there is more to it than that.”의 느낌을 담고 있는 조심스러운 표현일 수도 있다. 이와 마찬가지로 “Mr. Kim was not incompetent.”라는 말은 “Mr. Kim was very competent.”의 의미일 수도 있지만 “Mr. Kim was competent, but not brilliantly so.”의 의미일 수도 있는 것이다.

☞ 같은 기능을 하는 부정어 두 개를 중복할 때, 일반적으로 문법적 오류로 본다.

(ex.) I don't want nothing. (X) ≠ I want something.

No one never goes nowhere. (X) ⇒

I couldn't hardly see anything. (X) ⇒

- 하지만 미국 영어, 사투리 등 구어체, 노래 가사나 문학에서 자주 이런 문장을 보게 된다. 이 경우는 강한 긍정으로 보면 안되고, **일종의 부정문**으로 보아야 한다. 하지만 표준적인 표현이 아니므로 공식적인 글쓰기에서는 피해야 한다.

(ex.) "We don't need no education. We don't need no thought control." : "*Another Brick in the Wall (part III)*" included in the album *The Wall* by Pink Floyd

There wasn't no man nowhere so virtuous. (*The Canterbury Tales* by Chaucer)

부정의 관용표현

◇ 부정어구가 없는 부정 표현

- **수사의문문**(Rhetoric Question)

(ex.) How many times do I have to tell you to stop playing Starcraft?

How much longer must our people endure this injustice?

=

Who knows what future will bring?

=

- **anything but** = not at all; not in any respect

(ex.) She's meant to be really nice but she was anything but nice when I met her.

- **far from** = not at all (예상하거나 원했던 것과 정반대의 결과가 발생했을 때)

(ex.) We were far from disappointed when they canceled the invitation.

Far from declaring victory, he was thinking of what to do if he lost.

- **free from** = without

(ex.) Because it is a charitable organization, it is free from tax worldwide.

- **the last** + 명사 + to R or 관계대명사절 : last = least likely; most unsuitable

(ex.) A butcher is the last person to preach vegetarianism.

- **much(still) less** = and certainly not

(ex.) Bill can barely boil an egg, much less cook dinner.

- **in vain** = to no avail; without success; only to R

(ex.) He tried to start the car in vain.

- **beyond, above** = cannot

(ex.) Her beauty is beyond description.

Your behavior today has been above reproach.

- **be(have) yet to** = have not p.p.

(ex.) A new type of computer has yet to be produced.

- **fail to** = cannot; do not

(ex.) I fail to see why you can't work on a Saturday.

- **remain to** : have not yet p.p.

(ex.) A great many things remain to be done.

- **know better than to** = be not so foolish as to = be wise enough not to

(ex.) I know better than to do such a foolish thing.

Exercises

※ 다음 문장을 읽고, 어법상 적절한 것을 고르시오.

1. John didn't go to the party, and Mary didn't either. That is, _____.

- ① either of them didn't go to the party
- ② either of them went to the party
- ③ John and Mary never went to the party together
- ④ neither of them went to the party

2. The tigers lost the first game of the doubleheader, but didn't lose _____ the games.

- ① all
- ② both
- ③ either
- ④ neither of

3. You cannot _____ see the star with the naked eye.

- ① help
- ② necessarily
- ③ hardly
- ④ scarcely

4. I am not in the _____ anxious about it.

① last

② all

③ least

④ latest

5. These chairs are _____. They are just not good enough.

① by all means satisfactory

② by no means satisfactory

③ not by some means satisfactory

④ not satisfied by all means

6. On _____ account should you leave the door unlocked while driving.

① good

② no

③ every

④ some

7. There can be no doubt _____ about it.

① whoever

② whomever

③ whatever

④ whichever

8. He never climbs a mountain _____ bringing home a little rock.

① but

② on

③ without

④ if

9. You are the _____ person I would have expected to see here.

① surprising

② rare

③ least

④ last

10. Despite the careful treatment, life in the hospital was _____ comfortable.

① anything but

② anything from

③ far more

④ more than

11. Everybody expected the musical to be a great hit, but it was _____ from being a success.

① away

② distant

③ far

④ opposite

12. Most of the job is complete, but a few things _____ done.

① have remain to be

② remain to be

③ remainder to be

④ remaining to be

13. It is yet _____ whether this plan will succeed.

① impossible

② unfinished

③ much to do

④ to be seen