



Grammar 2

not only ... but also; had better, it's (about/high) time

1 Read about inversion: *not only ... but also; had better, it's (about/high) time*.

Not only ..., but also

We can use *not only ..., but also* at the beginning of a sentence for emphasis. When we do this, the word order changes. Compare:

Kevin not only helps the mentally ill, but he also volunteers at the youth hostel.

Not only does Kevin help the mentally ill, but he also volunteers at the youth hostel.

Had better

We can use *had better* + bare infinitive to say what someone should do or to give advice.

I'd better not borrow any money; I won't be able to pay it back.

You **had better apply** for a job this week.

It's (about/high) time

We can use *it's time*, *it's about time* and *it's high time* + past tense to complain about or criticise something or someone in the present.

It's time Grant **stopped** relying on social welfare.

It's about time you **found** a place to live.

It's high time she **got** a job.

2 Read the sentences. Do they refer to the present or the past? What is the tense of the main verb in these sentences?

It's time we did something about the homeless.

It's about time I left for the nursing home.

It's high time you stopped asking me for money.

Read 12.4-12.6 of the Grammar Reference before you do the tasks.

3 Circle the correct answers.

- Not only ___ a lot of money, but they also give people hope.
a do charities raise b charities raise
- It's high time you ___ feeling sorry for yourself.
a stopped b did stop
- We had better ___ if we can get a bed at the shelter for the night.
a to see b see
- It's about time the government ___ more public housing.
a built b build
- They had better ___ to the officer at the police station.
a speak b spoke
- Not only ___ cheap, but it is also clean.
a that youth hostel is b is that youth hostel
- It's time you ___ some more responsibility.
a take on b took on
- Not only ___ at the local food bank, but she also ran a charity shop.
a helped Clare b did Clare help



4 Read the sentences and write C (correct) or I (incorrect). Rewrite the incorrect sentences in your notebook.

- Not only do the poor need money, but they also need homes. _____
- It's about time you attended a meeting for your addiction. _____
- Not only the man was an addict, but he also was a thief. _____
- It's time they give him an award. He's an inspiration to everyone. _____
- Tina had better to speak to the boy's parents if he acts up again. _____
- It's high time we do something about the problem. _____

