

NEGATIVE INVERSION

Fill the gaps using the words in the box.

has · before · than · audience · then · was · started · will · can · did · so many · had

1. Hardly ever an athlete won so many medals in such a short time.
2. Little we realise what a social faux-pas we had committed.
3. Scarcely the match started when the trouble began.
4. Only by standing on tip-toe I able to see anything at all.
5. Seldom can an have heard a better interpretation of this symphony.
6. Hardly had the controversial opera when people began to walk out.
7. Only if we leave now we be in time to catch the train.
8. Never have I seen people turn out for this event.
9. Rarely a remark have been more ill-judged.
10. Only did it become clear what the extent of the damage was.
11. Barely had we had time to pack up the picnic things the heavens opened
12. No sooner had we asked for a quieter room, we were given one.

Fill the gaps using the words in the box.

else · way · did · circumstances · nothing · such · nor · until · would · account · only · even

1. At no time he seem to realise what an idiot he was making of himself.
2. At no time before have I heard arrant nonsense.
3. Nowhere do they charge you so much for water
4. On no should you miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.
5. Under no must this door be left unlocked.
6. Not she apologises for what she said will I speak to her again.
7. Not if they halved the price would I buy such a heap of old rubbish.
8. Not for all the money in the world I do what you're suggesting.
9. Not do I know you're wrong, but I can also prove you're wrong.
10. Neither was the food up to standard was the service particularly good.
11. Everyone except me got soaked. Not for do I always carry an umbrella.
12. No am I going to jump into that icy cold water!

Transform the sentences, using the words given.

1. You shouldn't tell him about my trip to China. (On no ...)
2. You are not going to get me to eat that! (No way ... !)
3. I have seldom seen such a brilliant goal. (Seldom ...)
4. Such a hurricane has rarely happened in Hereford. (Hardly ever ...)
5. I wouldn't want to hurt your feelings for all the world. (Not ...)
6. They were never aware of the danger that threatened them. (At no time ...)
7. This must not leak out to the press. (Under ...)
8. He wasn't rich and he wasn't handsome. (Neither ...)
9. We haven't often witnessed such artistry. (Rarely ...)
10. The bridge collapsed as soon as we managed to get across. (No sooner ...)
11. We were only able to cross the border by offering him a bribe. (Only ...)
12. Immediately he opened his mouth he started complaining about everything. (Barely ... before ...)