

Self-Study Guide.
BOOK: BUILDING TOEIC SKILLS.
UNIT 3. SHOPPING. .

Listening Strategy: Negative Words

Negative words tell when something is incorrect or untrue. They can make something seem less than it is. Negative words can also express the feeling of a speaker.

1. Listening for Negative Verbs

One of the most common negative words is *not*. It is used with an auxiliary verb such as *be*, *do*, *can*, or *have*. It often combines in a shortened form with auxiliary verbs.

Ex I **went** to the store.
That price **is** correct.
Those shoes **are** cheap.
We **can refund** your purchase.
Buy me a gift!

I **did not go** to the store.
That price **is not** correct.
Those shoes **aren't** cheap.
We **can't refund** your purchase.
Don't buy me a gift!

If you hear *not*, then the speaker is telling you that something is not true or that it did not happen.

Pay special attention to questions with *not* and to the speaker's reply.

Ex M: **Don't** you **have** a few coins?
W: No, **I don't**.
Yes, I do.

(The man wants to borrow some coins.)
(She has no coins.)
(She has some coins.)

Practice

A Listen and check the correct response. **Track 20**

1. a. _____ I can't afford to go there.
b. _____ Yes, I don't.
2. a. _____ I don't have a dog.
b. _____ Pets aren't allowed in the store.
3. a. _____ It's not mine.
b. _____ We don't take credit cards.
4. a. _____ I never shop at the mall.
b. _____ I'm not at the store.
5. a. _____ I haven't seen it.
b. _____ I don't use a wallet.
6. a. _____ He never tells me.
b. _____ No, it's not.
7. a. _____ No, I wasn't at the meeting.
b. _____ No, I didn't have any money.
8. a. _____ I can't see one.
b. _____ I never go there.

B Listen and write the missing words. If there are no missing words, leave the space blank. **Track 21**

1. That _____ enough money to make that purchase.
2. Jason _____ buys cheap products. He loves luxury goods.
3. This is _____ my favorite brand.
4. We _____ at discount stores.
5. I _____ afford the shipping costs.
6. You _____ leave your shopping cart there.
7. The cashier _____ very friendly.
8. I _____ return this coat without a receipt.

Think About

- Do you hear the word *not*?
- Do you hear a negative pronoun or adverb?

2. Negative Pronouns

When you are listening, check for negative pronouns. Negative pronouns include *no*, *no one*, *nobody*, *nothing*, and *neither*.

Ex **No** credit cards are accepted here.
No one bought the new brand of jeans.
None of her friends likes to go shopping.
Neither of my parents will take me to the mall.

NO vs NONE

► **NO**: IS AN ARTICLE - it goes before a noun.

- **There is no sugar** = **there isn't any sugar**
- **I have no car** = **I don't have a car**
- **I have no problems** = **I don't have any problems**

NO and **NONE**

NONE *of* (something)

There are **no** batteries in the drawer.



I found 3 batteries but **none** of them work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bgiVZfIH7TENC>

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING (NO or NONE)

1. She wanted some sugar but there was _____ in the house.
2. Is there any tea left? No, _____ at all.
3. There was _____ end to our troubles.
4. They had _____ food.
5. _____ of them has come back yet.
6. How many tickets have you got? _____.
7. _____ words can describe the scene.
8. We have _____ kids.

Neither- nor.

Neither allows us to make a negative statement about two people or things at the same time. Neither goes before singular countable nouns. We can use *neither* as a conjunction with *nor*. It connects two or more negative alternatives.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PaqP47uJcsU>

COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING (NEITHER - NOR)

1. Janet didn't like Liz Taylor's performance. _____ did I.
2. _____ Janet _____ I knew if the second act would be better.
But we decided to stay on.
3. Coming home that night, we waited for hours as we could find
_____ a taxi _____ a bus.
4. The book was not very successful, _____ was it well-publicized.
5. _____ Brian _____ his wife mentioned anything about moving house.
6. _____ Italy _____ France got to the quarter finals last year.

3. Negative Adverbs

Is the word *barely*, *never*, or *hardly* in the sentence? Although the verb may be positive, these words suggest that the speaker cannot do or has difficulty in doing something.

Ex I can **hardly** read this label. (The speaker can't read the label easily.)
I **never** forget my reusable bags. (The speaker does not forget her bags.)

M: Do you like to buy luxury goods?

W: I can **barely** afford the things I need. (The woman does not have much money.
Therefore, she cannot buy luxury goods.)