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 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!

LIVEWORKSHEETS

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 ...)

LIVEWORKSHEETS