

Complete 1–3 in the GRAMMAR PANEL with the words in the box.

negative positive singular

EITHER... OR/NEITHER... NOR

We use *either... or* and *neither... nor* to compare two different items.

We use *either... or* to mean “one or the other but not both.”

It has a ⁽¹⁾ meaning:

We can visit either Shanghai or Beijing.

Neither... nor has a ⁽²⁾ meaning. It means “not the first one and not the second one”:

Neither the drugstore nor the supermarket had the medicine you wanted.

In formal English we use a ⁽³⁾ verb with *either/neither*, unless the second noun or both nouns are plural:
Neither Janna nor Harry is going to the conference.

NOT ~~are~~ going...

Neither my sister nor my parents know about this.

Either/neither go directly before the first of the two items being compared:

They are either owned by foreign companies or just make parts of other products.

Insert *either... or* or *neither... nor* in an appropriate position in sentences 1–5.

- 1 In my country there are ^{neither} beaches ^{nor} mountains. It's flat and landlocked.
- 2 A lot of young people here are employed studying in college. It's a problem.
- 3 When they graduate, most young men have to spend a year in the army do community service.
- 4 There are many convention centers and reception halls in my town, so most people work in catering tourism.
- 5 Unfortunately, there's a swimming pool a soccer stadium in my hometown.

Complete the sentences with *either... or/neither... nor*.

- 1 I **always** eat a good meal during the day,
at **lunchtime** **in the evening**.
- 2 If I go out for a meal, I like to eat
Chinese **Thai** food.
- 3 When I need to buy food, I go to the
market to **the local stores near my house**.
- 4 I rarely **cook at home**. I find **cooking**
interesting **enjoyable**.

Rewrite the phrases in bold so the sentences are true for you.