

**Why do we make inversion?**

- For emphasis
- To make the sentence more dramatic
- In literary or formal language (especially negative sentences)

**Type of Inversion**

1. **Conditional Sentence / If clause Inversion**

1.1 **If Clause type 1**

If + Subject + ..... , Subject + .....

= .....

- If you need a hand, I will be more than happy to help you.

....., I will be more than happy to help you.

- If you hear anything, please let me know.

....., please let me know.

1.2 **If Clause type 2**

If + Subject + ..... , Subject + .....

= .....

- If I were you, I think I would study more for your exam tomorrow.

....., I think I would study more for your exam tomorrow.

- If John played tennis, he would win the competition.

....., he would win the competition.

### 1.3 If Clause type 3

If + Subject + ..... , Subject + .....

= .....

- If she had not helped me, I would have been in bad trouble.

....., I would have been in bad trouble.

- If the weather had been nice, we would have finished painting the walls.

....., we would have finished painting the walls.

### Exercise 1: If clause inversion. Rewrite the given sentences.

1. If Sam had enough money, he would change his car.

.....

2. If he had lent me some money, I could have bought that house.

.....

3. If you come early, we may have breakfast.

.....

### 2. Negative Inversion

#### Negative words.

- Never / Rarely / Hardly ever / Seldom
- Not often
- Hardly...when...
- No sooner...than...
- Little
- At no time
- Not once
- Not (+ an object)

- On no account
- Under no circumstances
- On no condition
- In no case

1>I had hardly arrived home when my phone rang.

.....

2.>They had barely won the match when the coach had a heart attack.

.....

3.>The company had no sooner launched a new product than it went bankrupt.

.....

### 3. So/ Such Inversion

Structure: .....

1> He was so excited that he could hardly sleep.

.....

2> She performed it so well that many said that it was perfect.

.....

3> He became so angry that he stormed out of the room.

.....

### 4. Inversion after “So, Neither, Nor”

We use this to express “Agreement”

1> Paul likes documentaries and .....

2> Vivian went to the cinema and .....

3> They didn't go to the lecture and .....

4> You haven't finished your lunch and .....

5> A: *I am going home.* B: .....

6> A: *I don't like meat.* B: .....

#### 5. Inversion after "Only..."

Only after/ Only when

Only if / Only by + Inversion in the Main Clause

Not until

1> You can only play after lunch.

.....

2> Bats leave their cave only at night.

.....

3> I will go there only if you come with me.

.....

4> we'd all arrived home Only when I felt calm.

.....

5> after I'd only seen her flat I understood her.

.....

#### Fill in the blanks

- Not until I saw John with my own eyes did I really believe he was safe.
- Not since Lucy left college, ..... such a wonderful time. [she, had had]
- Only after I'd seen her flat ..... why she wanted to live there. [I , understood]
- Only by studying hard , ..... their exams. [They, will pass]
- Only when we'd all arrived home ..... calm. [I , felt]

**Exercise 1: Rewrite the given sentences.**

1. The matter could be explained in no other way.

In.....

2. We had hardly started when it began to rain.

Hardly.....

3. I have seldom heard such beautiful singing.

Seldom.....

4. I shall never forget your kindness.

Never.....

5 The gang didn't know that the police had them under surveillance.

### Exercise 2: Choose the best answer.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ should children be allowed to drive.

2. after months of planning were they ready for the conference.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ had I left than I heard them laughing.

4. Only \_\_\_\_\_ can we start the party.

A. when Jane has arrived      B. when has Jane arrived

5. \_\_\_\_\_ who borrowed the money.

6. What \_\_\_\_\_ is simply not true.

7. Only by working three jobs \_\_\_\_ able to support his large family.

8. The boss didn't know what to do, \_\_\_\_ the rest of us.

9. \_\_\_ you see Frank at the conference, give him my regards.

10. \_\_\_\_ the medicine than she began to feel better.

11. Only by speaking more can improve your fluency in English.