

Form

both

both + noun + and + noun
both + adjective + and + adjective

Use

Example

To emphasise that each of two things is true

Both Adam **and** Vicky said Colin was very kind.
Simon is **both** rude **and** unkind.

To say the same thing about two things

My sister and I were **both** shocked by what you said.
Jack and Jill **both** know lots of jokes.

Helpful hints

We sometimes use of with both. We always use this when it comes before a pronoun.

✓ I used to be good friends with Lisa and Mike, but I've had an argument with **both of** them.

Form

either

either + noun + or + noun
either + adjective + or + adjective
either + verb + or + verb

Use

Example

To talk about a choice between two things

I think I'll buy a Valentine's card with **either** a puppy **or** a kitten on it.
I'm not sure how Tom will react – he'll be **either** happy **or** shocked!
You can **either** tell him how you feel **or** hope he notices.

Helpful hints

We sometimes use of with either. We always use this when it comes before a pronoun.

✓ I really like Robert and Martin – I'll go out with **either of** them!

Form

neither

neither + noun + nor + noun
neither + adjective + nor + adjective
neither + verb + nor + verb

Use

Example

To emphasise that each of two negative things is true

I've got **neither** the time **nor** the energy to take up a new hobby at the moment.
What you said to Lucy was **neither** true **nor** fair.

Helpful hints

We sometimes use of with neither. We always use this when it comes before a pronoun.

✓ **Neither of** us found Jason's joke funny.

Form

so, nor

so + do/have/be/modal + subject
nor + do/have/be/modal + subject

Use

Example

To add more information to a positive statement

Lisa is really unkind, and **so** is Angela.
You're good at listening to people, and **so** am I.

To add more information to a negative statement

My brother hasn't been invited to the party, and **nor** has his friend.
Tom wouldn't forgive Jenny if she told everyone his secret, and **nor** would I.

Helpful hints

You can also use these structures on their own in a conversation.

✓ 'I like Hannah's sense of humour.'
'So do I.'
✓ 'I don't find Mark funny.'
'Nor do I.'

A If the phrase in bold in each sentence is correct, put a tick (✓). If it is wrong, write the correct phrase.

- I was surprised that **both and Mary and Oliver** were late for the meeting.
- My mum said she was **both of** proud and nervous when I appeared in the school play.
- Why don't **both of you** wait here while I go and see if Stuart is in?
- Both of books** have got pages missing.
- Can I throw **and both** these magazines away, Derek?
- When I won the race, I was **and exhausted and** happy.
- Edward and Nigel **both of them** wanted to go on holiday, but they couldn't afford it.
- Did **both you and** Sylvia grow up in the south of France?

B Join the two sentences using either ... or.

- You can have ice cream for dessert. You can also have fruit.
You can
- I'm considering studying maths at university and I'm considering studying physics.
I'm considering
- I might play chess tonight. I might read a book.
I might
- Perhaps John has forgotten about our meeting. Perhaps he's got lost.
John has
- Some nights my dad cooks. Some nights he washes up.
Every night, my dad
- We can order a pizza. We can order a Chinese takeaway.
We can
- I might have lost the piece of paper with Dave's number on it. I might have thrown it away.
I've
- You could write to your cousin. You could give her a call.
You could

C Circle the correct word.

- Neither Alex **or / nor** Gareth knew that I'd seen them take the money.
- I thought it was strange when both Ian **and / or** Anne left at the same time.
- We could order either a chicken salad **and / or** a green salad.
- Evi was neither embarrassed **and / nor** angry when Victoria told her to shut up.
- Passengers can both watch recent movies **and / or** listen to great albums on many of our flights.
- I have neither the money **or / nor** the time to go on holiday right now.

D Join the two sentences using *neither ... nor*.

1 Jim wasn't surprised by what I said. He wasn't shocked by what I said.

Jim
.....

2 Carol doesn't have a car. She also doesn't have a motorbike.

Carol
.....

3 Al doesn't play tennis. He doesn't watch it on TV.

Al
.....

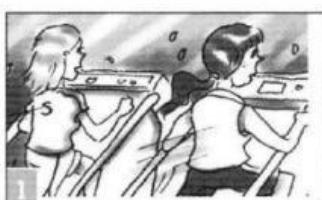
4 The manager wasn't very helpful. The receptionist wasn't very helpful.

Neither
.....

5 Pauline couldn't read until she was seven. She also couldn't write until she was seven.

Pauline
.....

6 I haven't been to Poland before. Boris hasn't been to Poland before.

Neither
.....**E** Write one word in each gap.**June:** ... and so we went to see that new Tim Banks comedy last week.**Polly:** Oh, so (1) we. What did you think? We weren't very impressed.**June:** (2) were we. It wasn't very funny.**Polly:** I didn't want to go, but Kevin likes that cinema. So (3) I, actually. We've been there hundreds of times.**June:** The one in town? Oh, so (4) we. The ice cream there is great, and (5) is the popcorn! I could eat it all night.**Polly:** Yes! So (6) ! I don't like their drinks, though.**June:** Oh, no. (7) do I. Anyway, we're thinking of going to see what's on this evening.**Polly:** (8) are Jack and I. Let's meet up. I don't finish work until seven.**June:** (9) do I. I'll see what's on and give you a ring. I'm looking forward to it already.**Polly:** So (10) I. Okay, speak to you later.**F** Write what they say using the words given in the correct form. Add any other words you need and use your imagination.

1 both / enjoy / run



2 have / either



3 neither / like



4 she / go home / so / I