

SERENDIPITY

ENGLISH, THE MOST FORTUNATE  
DISCOVERY

Hello!

Welcome to Opportunities for Serendipity English Course!

OPPORTUNITIES  
English!

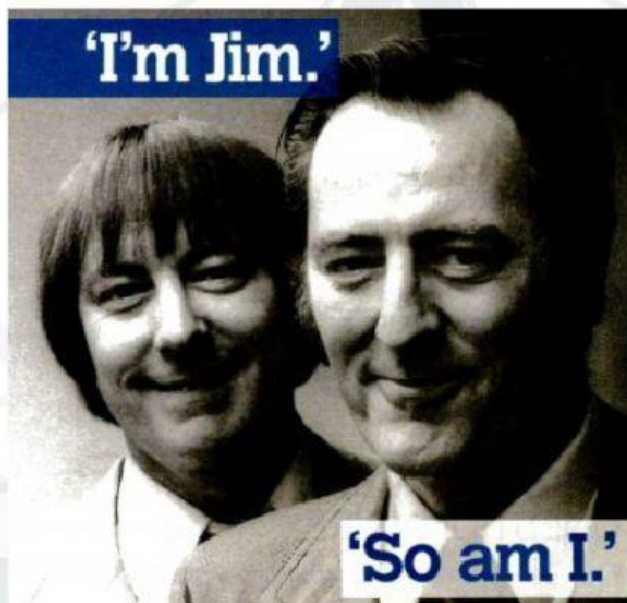


Do you believe in coincidence?

What a coincidence!

**1. Grammar; so, neither + auxiliaries**

a. Look at the photos and describe the two men.

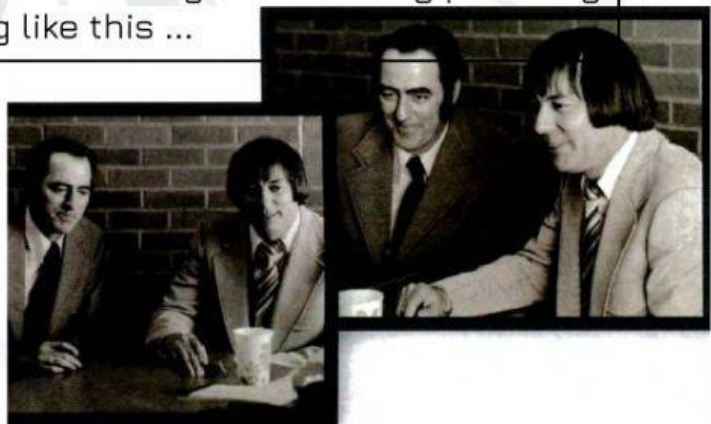




b. Read about the two men and answer the questions.

1. Who are Jim Springer and Jim Lewis?
2. Why didn't they know each other?
3. What did Jim Lewis decide to do when he was 39?
4. How long did it take him?

In the USA, identical twin brothers were adopted soon after they were born. One brother was adopted by a couple named Lewis in Lima, Ohio, and his brother was adopted by a couple named Springer in Dayton, Ohio. By coincidence, both boys were called 'Jim' by their new parents. When Jim Lewis was six years old, he discovered that he had an identical twin brother. When he was thirty-nine, he decided to find and contact his brother. Six weeks later, he met Jim Springer in a cafe in Dayton. and they probably had a conversation something like this ...







c. Listen to the dialogue. What three things do they have in common?

5.5

d. Listen again and complete the dialogue.

**A** Hi! I'm Jim.

**B** So ..... I. Great to meet you. Sit down. Are you married, Jim?

**A** Yes, well, I've been married twice.

**B** Yeah? So ..... I. Do you have any children?

**A** I have one son.

**B** So ..... I. What's his name?

**A** James Allen.

**B** That's amazing! My son's name is James Allen too!

**A** Did you go to college, Jim?

**B** No, I didn't .

**A** Neither ..... I. I was a terrible student.

**B** So ..... I. Hey, this is my dog Toy.

**A** I don't believe it! My dog's called Toy too!

**B** He wants to go outside. My wife usually takes him. I don't do any exercise at all.

**A** Don't worry. Neither ..... I. I drive everywhere.

**B** What car do you have?

**A** A Chevrolet.

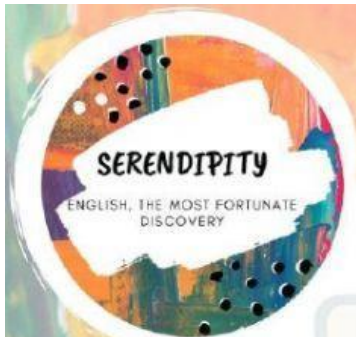
**B** So ..... I!

**A+ B** Let's have a beer, Jim.

**A** What beer do you drink?

**B** Miller Lite.

**A** So ..... I!



e. Which coincidence do you think is the most surprising?

f. Look at the dialogue again. Answer the questions.

1. Find two phrases that the twins use ...
  - when they have something [+] in common.
  - when they have something [-] in common.
  
2. Why do you think the auxiliary verb changes?



- 1 **A** I love classical music.  
**B** So do I.  
**A** I went to a classical concert last night.  
**B** So did I.
- 2 **A** I'm not married.  
**B** Neither am I.  
**A** I don't want to get married.  
**B** Neither do I.

- Use *So do I*, *Neither do I*, etc. to say that you have something in common with somebody.

- 1 Use *So* + auxiliary + *I* to respond to positive sentences.
  - 2 Use *Neither* + auxiliary + *I* to respond to negative sentences.
- The auxiliary you use depends on the tense.

<b>present simple</b>	<i>I don't like classical music.</i>	<i>Neither <b>do</b> I.</i>
<b>present continuous</b>	<i>I'm having a great time.</i>	<i>So <b>am</b> I.</i>
<b>can / can't</b>	<i>I can swim.</i>	<i>So <b>can</b> I.</i>
<b>past simple</b>	<i>I didn't like the film.</i>	<i>Neither <b>did</b> I.</i>
	<i>I was very tired.</i>	<i>So <b>was</b> I.</i>
<b>would / wouldn't</b>	<i>I wouldn't like to go there.</i>	<i>Neither <b>would</b> I.</i>
<b>present perfect</b>	<i>I've been to Brazil.</i>	<i>So <b>have</b> I.</i>

- Be careful with the word order.  
*So do I. / Neither do I. NOT ~~So I do. / Neither I do.~~*

### ! **neither and nor**

You can also use *nor* instead of *neither*, e.g.

**A** *I didn't like the film.*

**B** *Nor / Neither did I.*

*Neither* is usually pronounced /'naɪðə/, but can also be pronounced /'ni:ðə/.



## 2. Speaking

a. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

I love ..... (a kind of music)

I don't like ..... (a drink)

I'm very ..... (adjective of personality)

I'm not very good at ..... (sport or activity)

I'm going to ..... after class. (an activity)

I have to ..... every day. (an obligation)

I don't eat ..... (a kind of food)

b. Tell your partners about you so they can comment; So do I / So am I /  
Neither do I / Neither am I.



## 3 Vocabulary; similarities

a. Read about some more similarities between the two Jims. Complete the text with a word from the list.

*as both identical like neither similar so*

As schoolboys, the two Jims looked exactly ..... each other. They ..... liked maths and carpentry- but hated spelling. After school they had ..... jobs: Lewis was a security guard and Springer was a deputy sheriff. Jim Lewis first married a woman called Linda, and then a woman called Betty, exactly the same names..... Jim Springer's first and second wives. Even their tastes in sport are..... - Jim Springer likes baseball and..... does Jim Lewis. Jim Lewis doesn't like basketball and ..... does Jim Springer.

b. Complete the sentences about you and your family. Tell your partner.

1. I have the same colour eyes as my .....
2. I look like my .....
1. My personality is quite similar to my ..... 's.
2. My ..... and I both like .....
3. I like..... and so does my .....
4. I don't like ..... and neither does my .....



#### 4. Listening

a. Look at the photo of a couple and listen to a news story about them.  
What is the coincidence?

5.11



## Facebook coincidence brings couple together

b. Listen again and answer the questions.

1. Why did Kelly Hildebrandt put her name into Facebook?
2. What did she discover?
3. What did she do next?
4. What other things do they have in common?
5. Why were they worried?
6. What do they call each other?
7. What problem did they once have?
8. What are they definitely *not* going to do?

c. Have you ever put your name into Google or Facebook? Did you discover anything interesting?