

UNIT 7

neither... nor

'neither... nor' is used when two objects are mentioned in a sentence and a negative is needed to refer to both.

'neither... nor' can be used in the beginning or in the middle of a sentence.

Example A

Josie is not at the restaurant. Josie is not at the cinema.

Answer

Josie is **neither** at the restaurant **nor** at the cinema.

NOTE:

This is an easy 'neither... nor' sentence. There is no need to change tenses or order of the two objects (in this case, 'restaurant' and 'cinema') mentioned.

Example B

Ian dislikes mangoes. Ian dislikes apples too.

Answer

Ian likes **neither** mangoes **nor** apples.

NOTE:

In some cases, you may need to change a word in the given sentences to a positive. In this case, 'dislikes' is changed to 'likes'. This is because 'neither... nor' already denotes the negative. A double negative in this sentence is an error.

Example C

Cindy is not my friend. Nelly is also not my friend.

Answer

Neither Cindy **nor** Nelly is my friend.

NOTE:

In this case, 'neither... nor' begins the sentence. Here, the word 'not' is left out in the answer so that there is no double negative error.

EXERCISE

For each question, rewrite the given sentence(s) using the word(s) provided. Your answer must be in one sentence. The meaning of your sentence must be the same as the meaning of the given sentence(s).

20

1. Both Devi and Sally dislike Mathematics.

Neither _____ nor _____

2. Johnny won't be moved by reason. He won't be moved by persuasion either.

Neither _____ nor _____

3. Jessie has never been to Tokyo or London.

_____ neither _____ nor _____

4. I can't move either of my feet!

_____ neither _____ nor _____

- *5. The witness told the police officer that the robber was tall and lanky.

_____ neither _____ nor _____

6. The shirt doesn't fit and it is too expensive.

_____ neither _____ nor _____

7. Both the cakes and the cookies are stale.

Neither _____ nor _____

8. The necklace is not made of silver. The necklace is not made of gold

_____ neither _____ nor _____

9. The soup is too hot to eat. The stew is also too hot to eat.

Neither _____ nor _____

- *10. Victor and Ivan will keep the secret between themselves.

Neither _____ nor _____
