

6

either...or

'either... or' is used when there are two choices in a sentence.

Example 1

You may choose the red jacket as your present. You may choose the green knapsack as your present.

You may choose either the red jacket or the green knapsack as your present.

Example 2

Maybe Vernon broke the window pane. Or maybe Shawn did.

Either Vernon or Shawn broke the window pane.

Example 3

Both Lena and Daisy are Belinda's friends. One of them is her best friend.

Belinda's best friend is either Lena or Daisy.

Example 4

We have tea and coffee. Which would you like?

Would you like either tea or coffee?

Example 5

Sylvester may be chosen as the captain of the team. Bala may be chosen as the captain of the team.

Either Sylvester or Bala may be chosen as the captain of the team.

Exercise 6

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).

1. You can have a glass of juice. You can have a cup of tea.

_____ either _____ or _____

2. Did you see Mr Soh? Did you see Mrs Lee?

_____ either _____ or _____

3. Tina will help clear the table. Or maybe George will help.

Either _____ or _____

4. Obey the rules if you don't want to get punished.

_____ either _____ or _____

5. Shannon may pick the long-tailed puppy as her new pet. Shannon may pick the floppy-eared bunny as her new pet.

_____ either _____ or _____

6. One of us has to tell Mother about the broken window.

Either _____ or _____

7. I think Sheila likes this diamond ring best. Or it could be that sapphire ring.

_____ either _____ or _____

*8. If Mr Lim is not in his office, then he will be at the canteen.

_____ either _____ or _____

*9. The prince will have to choose his treasure from between the wooden chest and the gunny sack.

_____ either _____ or _____

*10. The pirate is injured in one eye.

Either _____ or _____