

Double Negatives

Look at this sentence-

The boy **did not** have **no** bow.

It does not make sense because it has two negative words (a word that means no) in it. It should say-

The boy **did not** have **a** bow.

Task One

Here are the common words we use to demonstrate that something is negative-

No **not** **nothing** **never** **nowhere**

We also add the letters **n't** onto words to make them negative, like **doesn't**.

Copy these sentences into your books. Underline the negative words in each of these incorrectly written sentences.

1. There isn't no point in going out because it's raining.
2. The referee said that he didn't want no trouble.
3. The burglar claimed that he wasn't nowhere near the house when it was burgled.
4. I don't belong to no swimming club.
5. The crocodile hasn't got no whiskers.
6. The toy robot didn't do nothing when it was wound up.

Task Two

Choose the correct word from the pair above to complete the sentence.

1. **nothing** **anything**

John did not tell his father ----- about the accident.

John told his father ----- about the accident.

2. **no** **any**

There isn't ----- cake left.

There is ----- cake left.

3. **never** **ever**

Don't you ----- get tired of knitting?

Do you ----- get tired of knitting?