

Standard English



Double negatives: two 'negative' words in the same sentence. For Standard English to apply one of the negative words must be changed.

I ain't got no pencils → I haven't got any pencils

I don't want none of that → I don't want any of that.

Negative words

- 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.
- 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 to words to make them negative, like doesn't.



Task 1

- Copy these sentences into your books. Underline the negative words in each of these incorrectly written sentences. Next, write in the alternatives.
- There isn't no point in going out because it's raining.
- The referee said that he didn't want no trouble.
- I don't belong to no swimming club.
- The crocodile hasn't got no whiskers.
- The toy robot didn't do nothing when it was wound up.



Task 2

- Choose the correct word from the pair given 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?



Standard English

These are not written in Standard English, how should they be written?

May I lend your scissors Ben?

May I borrow your scissors Ben?

I should of taken more care with the hammer.

I should have taken more care with the hammer.



Copy these into your books and write the correct version underneath.

1. I'd like one of **them** cakes.
2. My uncle gave me this book **whenever** I was born.
3. It was thunder **what** we heard.
4. Mum **learned** me to ride a bike.
5. He **never!**
6. It's **right** hot!

Try and think of some of your own. Write the non-standard and standard versions.

