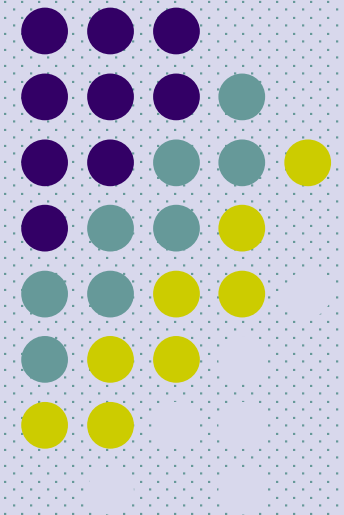
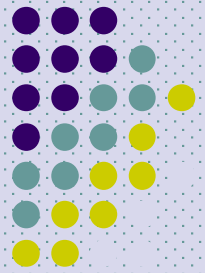


INVERSION





EXPLANATION

The term inversion refers to an irregular verb placement form and it covers two different grammatical operations:

1. Using a question form of the main verb

“Not only **did he get** late to work, but also came completely unprepared for the meeting”.

2. Changing the normal positions of verb and subject, mainly for emphasis.

“Along **came Polly**”.

“Up in the air went the ballon”.

INVERSION AFTER NEGATIVE ADVERBIALS



- After time expressions such as **never, rarely, before, little, seldom, hardly, barely, scarcely, no sooner.**

“Seldom have I felt so alone”

“Scarcely had I got out of bed when the doorbell rang”

“Little did he know that we had called the police”

Rarely have I seen Lucy so excited”

- After **ONLY** (only by, only after, only then, only when, only if...)

“Only after understanding the situation does the teacher make a comment”

“Only by looking at her, did he realise how hurt she was.”

“Only when we lose something, do we realise its importance”

- After phrases containing **NO/NOT** (under no circumstances, no account, at no time, in no way, on no condition, not until, not only...(but also))

“Under no circumstances can you leave this house!”

“Not only will she have to study hard, but she will also have to concentrate to do well on the exams”

“Under no condition should you drive this car!”

“ No way I’m sitting next to him!”

“Not only can he cook, but his baking is excellent as well.”

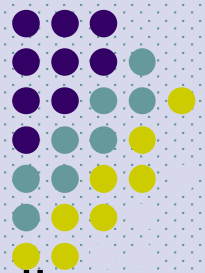
INVERSION AFTER SO/SUCH WITH THAT



- This occurs with **so** and adjectives when the main verb is be. It is used for emphasis and is more common than the example with such. It only happens if so/such is the first word in the clause.
- **So** + adjective ... that' combines with the verb 'to be'.
 - “*So difficult is the test that students need three months to prepare*”.
 - “*So excited was the crowd that they began to cheer*””*So hard a worker is he that he deserves a raise*”
- **Such** + to be + noun ... (that)‘.
 - “*Such was the force of the storm that trees were uprooted*”.
 - “*Such a hard worker is he that he deserves a raise.*”

INVERTED CONDITIONAL SENTENCES

WITHOUT IF



Sometimes conditional forms are inverted as a means of sounding more formal. In this case, the conditional 'if' is dropped and the inverted forms takes the place of the 'if clause'. This makes the event less likely.

“Had he understood the problem, he wouldn't have committed those mistakes”

(If he had understood the problem,...) **3rd**

“Should he decide to come, please telephone”.

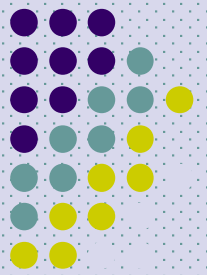
(If he decides to come, ...) **1st**

“Were I in your position, I'd apologize.”

(If I were.....) **2nd**

“Were I not to have been successful, I would have quit»

(If I wasn't successful)



- INVERSION AFTER AS

This is more common in formal or written language.

“We were really tired, as were most people who came to the trip”

“We always attend meetings and so do most of our friends.”

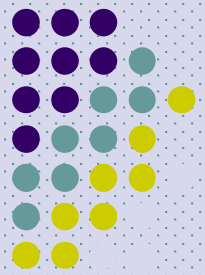
- INVERSION AFTER **SO, NEITHER AND NOR**

“A: I don’t like onions; B: Neither do I”.

“Carol can use this computer program and so does Ken.”

“Jane didn’t call me; Nor did Debbie.”

PRACTICE



- Turn the following into inverted sentences

1. We had no sooner left the house that it exploded.

No sooner had we left the house that it exploded.

2. Half a dozen apples fell down.

Down fell half a dozen apples.

3. If Mr Chan had been kinder to his employees, his business would not have collapsed.

Had Mr Chan been kinder to his employees, his business would not have collapsed.

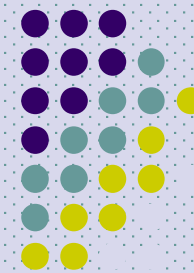
4. There are no circumstances where audience members may consume alcohol. (Under no circumstances)

Under no circumstances may audience members consume alcohol.

5. I did not say I would accept late homework. (at no time)

At no time did I say I would accept late homework.

Task



1) Cathy has no idea the amount of work I've **put** into this project (**know**)

Little **does Cathy know how much** work I've put into this project.

2) Because they were disappointed with their team, they stopped going to games. (**was**)

Such **was their disappointment** that they stopped going to games.

3) No matter what happens, I'll never invite them for dinner again. (**ever**)

Under **no circumstances will I ever invite** for dinner again

4) As soon as the bell rang all the students got up and rushed out of class. (**sooner**)

No **sooner had the bell rang** all the students got up and rushed out of class.

5) We were so busy that we had almost no time for lunch. (**barely**)

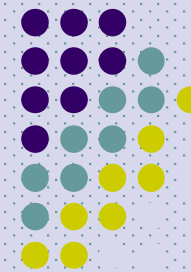
We were so busy **that barely did we have** For lunch.

6) No one can leave until everyone in the room is finished. (**anyone**)

Not until everyone **in the room is finished** **can anyone** leave.

7) There isn't any other way to lose weight but to be careful with your diet. (**when**)

It is only **you are careful** that you will lose weight.



THE END