

# INVERSION



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1. Not only does she play football, but also basketball.
2. Under no circumstances should you leave this door open.
3. Rarely do I talk to Steve.

1. **Not only** does she play football, **but** also basketball.

2. **Under no circumstances** should you leave this door open.

3. **Little** did he know that he was the next target.

# WHY DO WE USE INVERSION?

- To sound more formal.
- To give more emphasis.

# NEGATIVE INVERSIONS

## MODALS & AUXILIARY VERBS

**modal/auxiliary verb** + subject (like a question structure)

I will never talk to him again.

**Never will I talk** to him again.

I can rarely find the time to do my homework.

**Rarely can I find** time to do my homework.

# NEGATIVE INVERSIONS WITHOUT MODALS & AUXILIARY VERBS

**do/does/did** + subject (like a question structure)

I never go to the cinema.

**Never do I go** to the cinema.

I started going to the gym recently.

**Only recently did I start going** to the gym.

# PRACTICE TIME

do/does/did/aux/modal + subject (like a question structure)

1. I seldom go to the beach. (seldom)
2. I will never do that again. (never again)
3. I rarely ate ready meals while at uni.  
(rarely)

# PRACTICE TIME

do/does/did/aux/modal + subject (like a question structure)

1. I seldom go to the beach.

**Seldom do I go** to the beach.

2. I will never do that again.

**Never will I do** that again.

3. I rarely ate ready meals while at uni.

**Rarely did I eat** ready meals while at uni.



# PAST TIME INVERSIONS

As soon as I arrived home, the doorbell rang.

I had just got into bed when I heard a loud noise.

**No sooner** + past perfect + than + past simple

**Hardly/barely/scarcely** + past perfect + when + past simple

# PAST TIME INVERSIONS

As soon as I arrived home, the doorbell rang.

I had just got into bed when I heard a loud noise.

**No sooner** + past perfect + than + past simple

**Hardly/barely/scarcely** + past perfect + when + past simple

**No sooner** had I arrived home than the doorbell rang.

**Hardly** had I got into bed when I heard a loud noise.

# PRACTICE TIME

**No sooner** + past perfect + than + past simple

**Hardly/barely/scarcely** + past perfect + when + past simple  
(in a question structure)

1. As soon as she left, he started to cry.
2. I had just left the building when I saw the accident happen.

# PRACTICE TIME

**No sooner** + past perfect + than + past simple

**Hardly/barely/scarcely** + past perfect + when + past simple

1. As soon as she left, he started to cry.

**No sooner** had she left **than** he started to cry.

2. I had just left the building when I saw the accident happen.

**Hardly** had I left the building **when** I saw the accident happen.

# INVERSIONS WITH NO

Under no circumstances + should/must  
On no account

**Under no circumstances** should you enter the  
building unsupervised.

**On no account** must you place objects into the  
machine.

# PRACTICE TIME

Under no circumstances/On no account + should/must

1. Don't touch the machine while it's on.
2. You mustn't speak to him.
3. Don't feed the penguins!

# PRACTICE TIME

Under no circumstances/On no account + should/must

1. Don't touch the machine while it's on.

**Under no circumstances** should you touch the machine while it's on.

2. You mustn't speak to him.

**On no account** must you speak to him.

3. Don't feed the penguins!

**Under no circumstances** should you feed the penguins.

# INVERSIONS WITH LITTLE

**Little did/do/does** + someone + know/realise

John didn't know he was being followed.

**Little did John know** that he was being followed.

Emma doesn't realise that her bag is missing.

**Little does Emma realise** that her bag is missing.



# PRACTICE TIME

Little did/do/does + someone + know/realise

1. Maria didn't know her new iPhone was a fake.
2. They didn't realise how dark it had got.
3. He didn't know that the man was really a murderer.

# PRACTICE TIME

Little did/do/does + someone + know/realise

1. Maria didn't know her new iPhone was a fake.

**Little did Maria know** that her new iPhone was a fake.

2. They didn't realise how dark it had got.

**Little did they realise** how dark it had got.

3. He didn't know that the man was really a murderer.

**Little did he know** that the man was really a murderer.

THANK YOU!

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