

Exercices sur l'inversion

Exercices d'anglais - niveau Terminale

Ces exercices sur l'inversion vous font passer de l'ordre neutre à l'ordre emphatique, adverbe par adverbe. Les dernières séries s'appuient sur un discours politique et vous demandent d'écrire le vôtre.

Cette fiche d'exercices est à **télécharger en PDF et à imprimer gratuitement** : le bouton se trouve en bas de la page, sans inscription.

Les exercices

Onze exercices sur l'inversion après un adverbe négatif

Exercice 1 : Repérer l'inversion

Pour chaque phrase, recopiez l'auxiliaire et le sujet inversés.

1. Never have I seen such a crowd.
2. Rarely does she complain.
3. Not only did he lie, but he also stole the money.
4. Hardly had we arrived when it started to snow.
5. Under no circumstances should you open this door.
6. Little did they know what awaited them.

Partie 2

Exercice 2 : Choisir la phrase correcte

Choisissez la phrase correcte, a ou b.

1. a) Never I have been so happy. b) Never have I been so happy.
2. a) Seldom does he call his parents. b) Seldom he calls his parents.
3. a) No sooner had I sat down than the phone rang. b) No sooner had I sat down when the phone rang.
4. a) Hardly had she left than he arrived. b) Hardly had she left when he arrived.
5. a) Only then did I understand. b) Only then I did understand.
6. a) Not until midnight did they arrive. b) Not until midnight they arrived.

Partie 3

Exercice 3 : Never, rarely, seldom en tête

Réécrivez chaque phrase en plaçant l'adverbe négatif en tête.

1. I have never heard such nonsense.
2. We rarely see such talent.
3. She had seldom felt so lonely.
4. They will never forget that day.
5. He rarely made mistakes.
6. I have hardly ever been so scared.

Exercice 4 : Not only... but also

Réunissez les deux idées en commençant par Not only.

1. He is a talented singer and he writes his own songs.
2. She speaks Gaelic and she teaches it.
3. The storm destroyed the roof and it flooded the cellar.
4. They have lost the match and they have lost their captain.
5. The film will entertain you and it will make you think.

Partie 4

Exercice 5 : À peine... que

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par le mot entre parenthèses.

1. As soon as I closed my eyes, the alarm went off. (No sooner)
2. As soon as the match started, it began to rain. (Hardly)
3. She had just hung up when the doorbell rang. (Scarcely)
4. As soon as the minister arrived, journalists surrounded him. (No sooner)
5. We had only just left when the bridge collapsed. (Barely)

Partie 5

Exercice 6 : Les expressions en no et little

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par l'expression donnée.

1. You must not open this envelope under any circumstances. (Under no circumstances)
2. Visitors should not feed the animals on any account. (On no account)
3. The suspect did not leave the house at any time. (At no time)
4. This decision is not a criticism of your work in any way. (In no way)

5. I had no idea that he was lying. (Little)

Partie 6

Exercice 7 : Not until et only

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par l'expression donnée.

1. I didn't realise my mistake until I got home. (Not until)
2. We understood the problem only when the results came out. (Only when)
3. You can enter only after you show your ticket. (Only after)
4. He became famous only then. (Only then)
5. You can succeed only by working hard. (Only by)
6. She will forgive him only if he apologises. (Only if)

Partie 7

Exercice 8 : Discours, l'urgence climatique

Lisez cet extrait de discours, puis réécrivez chacune de ses six phrases dans l'ordre neutre, sans inversion.

Ladies and gentlemen, never before has this country faced such a challenge. Not only are our rivers polluted, but our forests are also disappearing. Seldom have I seen so many young people marching in the streets. Little did we imagine, twenty years ago, that the climate would change so fast. Under no circumstances can we wait any longer. Only by acting together will we protect the generations to come.

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Partie 8

Exercice 9 : Correction d'erreurs

Chaque phrase contient une erreur. Corrigez-la.

1. Never I have seen such a mess.
2. Not only she sings, but she also dances.
3. No sooner had we arrived when it started raining.

4. Hardly had he left than the phone rang.
5. Only when I saw her I understood.
6. Seldom did she went out at night.

Partie 9

Exercice 10 : Traduction du français vers l'anglais

Traduisez en employant une inversion.

1. Jamais je n'avais eu aussi peur.
2. Non seulement il est arrivé en retard, mais en plus il a oublié son dossier.
3. À peine étions-nous sortis qu'il s'est mis à pleuvoir.
4. Vous ne devez en aucun cas quitter la salle.
5. Ce n'est qu'après son départ que j'ai compris.
6. J'étais loin de me douter qu'il mentait.

Exercice 11 : Production guidée

Écrivez un court discours pour défendre une cause qui vous tient à cœur. Utilisez une phrase pour chaque ouverture imposée.

1. Never...
2. Not only... but... also...
3. No sooner... than... (ou Hardly... when...)
4. Under no circumstances...
5. Only by...

Exercice 12 : Réécrire avec Never, Rarely, Hardly...

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par le mot ou le groupe indiqué, avec l'inversion qui convient.

1. I have never felt so tired. (Never...)
2. She rarely speaks in public. (Rarely...)
3. They had hardly left when the storm broke. (Hardly...)
4. He seldom travels abroad. (Seldom...)
5. We had no sooner sat down than the phone rang. (No sooner...)
6. You must not touch this button under any circumstances. (Under no circumstances...)

Exercice 13 : Only + complément

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par *Only* et en faisant l'inversion qui suit le complément.

1. We realised the danger only later.
2. She can open the door only with this key.
3. They found the truth only when it was too late.
4. I understood the rule only after three lessons.
5. He is allowed to enter only on Mondays.
6. You will win only if you train hard.

Exercice 14 : Le bon auxiliaire

Complétez chaque phrase avec l'auxiliaire qui convient : *did* - *had* - *have* - *does* - *should* (chacun peut servir plusieurs fois).

1. Not only ___ she sing, but she also played the guitar.
2. Never ___ I been so surprised.
3. No sooner ___ he arrived than the guests left.
4. Seldom ___ it rain in this desert.
5. Little ___ he know that the door was locked.
6. Under no circumstances ___ you leave the room.

Exercice 15 : Inversion après un complément de lieu

Réécrivez chaque phrase en plaçant le complément de lieu en tête, avec inversion du sujet et du verbe (style littéraire).

1. A letter lay on the table.
2. A man stood at the door.
3. The sun rose behind the hills.
4. A church stands at the top of the hill.
5. The bus comes here.
6. The taxi comes there.

Exercice 16 : So... that et Such...

Réécrivez chaque phrase en commençant par *So* ou *Such*.

1. The view was so beautiful that we stayed for an hour.
2. The noise was so loud that nobody could sleep.
3. She was so tired that she fell asleep at once.
4. The surprise was so great that he dropped his cup.
5. The queue was so long that we gave up.
6. His anger was so great that he left the room.

Exercice 17 : Si... → inversion

Remplacez *if* par une inversion (*Had...*, *Were...* ou *Should...*), sans changer le sens.

1. If I had known, I would have called you.
2. If she were here, she would help us.
3. If they should need help, they can call us.
4. If we had left earlier, we would have caught the train.
5. If he were taller, he could play basketball.
6. If you should see Tom, tell him to call me.

Exercice 18 : Remettre dans l'ordre

Observez le schéma, puis remettez les mots dans l'ordre pour former une phrase correcte qui commence par le mot en gras.

Inverted word order



negative word + auxiliary + subject + verb

L'ordre des mots après un adverbe négatif

1. seen / have / such / a / film / **Never** / I
2. does / **Rarely** / complain / she / about / the / weather
3. had / the / **Hardly** / begun / when / film / power / failed / the
4. **Not** / only / did / win / he / but / also / broke / a / record
5. **Little** / realised / did / the / we / danger

Exercice 19 : Terminer les phrases

Terminez chaque phrase de façon logique et grammaticalement correcte (réponses libres).

1. Never before had I ____
2. Not only did he forget my birthday, ____
3. Hardly had the lesson started when ____
4. Under no circumstances should you ____
5. Little did she know that ____

Exercice 20 : Décrire l'image

Observez l'image. Écrivez trois phrases pour raconter la scène, en utilisant chacune une inversion différente : une avec *Never*, une avec *Not only... but also* et une avec *Little*.



Une journée de pluie