

44 Adding emphasis

You can add emphasis, or even a sense of drama, to a statement through grammar and pronunciation. Inversion is one effective way to do this.

⚙️ **New language** Inversion after adverbials

Aa **Vocabulary** Media and celebrity

🧩 **New skill** Adding emphasis to statements

44.1 KEY LANGUAGE INVERSION AFTER NEGATIVE ADVERBIALS

In more formal or literary texts, inversion (when the normal order of words is reversed) is used for emphasis after negative adverbial phrases like "not only," "not since," and "only when."



In this simple sentence, the subject comes before the verb.

She is a famous singer. She is also a very good actor.

Not only is she a famous singer, **but she's also** a very good actor.

After the negative adverbial, the subject and the verb swap places.



44.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES INVERSION AFTER NEGATIVE ADVERBIALS

Negative adverbials are generally followed by auxiliary verb + subject.

Not since I was a teenager **have I** enjoyed a performance so much.

Not until the performance was over **did he** look up at the audience.



Where there is no auxiliary verb, "do" is used.

Only if it stops raining **will the race** go ahead this afternoon.

Only when he emerged from the car **did the fans** start cheering.

Only after the race **did he** realize what he had achieved.



Little do they know how lucky they are to be successful.

Little did they realize how difficult fame would be.

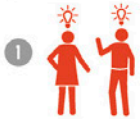




44.3 CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE



Not since 2003 ~~we had~~ / **had we** seen such a dramatic match.



1 Little **he did** / **did he** know that someone else had already invented the same thing.



2 Only after living there for two weeks **did they** / **they did** notice the smell.



3 Not **when** / **until** we spoke to the manager did the company admit their mistake.



4 Not since the children were little **had we** / **we had** been on such a fun day out.



5 Only **when** / **until** she won the award did people start taking her writing seriously.



44.4 FILL IN THE GAPS USING THE WORDS IN THE PANEL

Not since the 1990 World Cup has the team reached the quarter finals.

- 1 _____ if the company invests more money can the project be completed.
- 2 _____ until the wedding day did the groom see the bride's dress.
- 3 Little did they _____ that the weather would be absolutely terrible for the festival.
- 4 Not _____ the final encore did the audience begin to leave their seats at the concert.
- 5 Only _____ she was paying for the album did she realize she already owned it.
- 6 Not _____ will you be famous, but you will also be rich beyond your wildest dreams.
- 7 Only _____ she got home from the party did she notice how late it was.

since

Not

when

realize

after

until

Only

only



44.5 KEY LANGUAGE INVERSION AFTER TIME ADVERBIALS

You can also emphasize when something happened by using inversion after time adverbials like “no sooner” and “never before.”

In this simple sentence, the subject comes before the verb.

Tina **had** just released an album when she starred in her first movie.

No sooner **had** **Tina** released an album **than** she starred in her first movie.

The subject (“Tina”) and the auxiliary verb (“had”) swap places.



44.6 FURTHER EXAMPLES INVERSION AFTER TIME ADVERBIALS

Hardly **had** **she** stepped out of the car **when** fans surrounded her.

Never before **had** **a song** reached the top of the charts so quickly.

Rarely **do** **you** meet a celebrity with such talent and style.



44.7 REWRITE THE SENTENCES TO SHIFT THE EMPHASIS USING THE PROMPTS

They don't go to the movies together often. **[rarely]**

Rarely do they go to the movies together.

① He only felt safe at home. **[only when]**

② Fans chanted his name as soon as he walked on stage. **[hardly]**

③ They became the number one band and then split up immediately. **[no sooner]**

④ It was the first time anyone had seen so many fans in one place. **[never before]**





44.8 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



Two friends, Marta and Jeremy, are discussing celebrities and their children.

Marta has just seen Don and Sara Moran on a television show.

True ☐ False ☒

① Don has always encouraged people to photograph his children.

True ☐ False ☐

② Jeremy thinks the parents may have made a deal with the photographers.

True ☐ False ☐

③ Marta dislikes photos of celebrities' children in the papers.

True ☐ False ☐

④ Marta suspects that Don and Sara want their children to be famous.

True ☐ False ☐



44.9 REWRITE THE SENTENCES PUTTING THE WORDS IN THE CORRECT ORDER

alarm

lunch

had

went

off.

I

finished

the

Hardly

when

Hardly had I finished lunch when the alarm went off.

① rain stopped sooner No than it the had snow. to began

② did she Only she when heard recognize him. his voice

③ this car is Not affordable! but only also it's fast,

④ if you will help me Only I finish on time.



44 CHECKLIST

Inversion after adverbials ☐

Aa Media and celebrity ☐

Adding emphasis to statements ☐