



# PRACTICE: INVERSION

## EXERCISE 1

**USING INVERSION, REWRITE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES BEGINNING WITH THE WORDS GIVEN.**

a. You come to realise the significance of the murder only in the last few pages of the book.

Only in the last \_\_\_\_\_

b. The demands of her job are such that she is rarely able to take a holiday.

Such \_\_\_\_\_

c. The matter could be explained in no other way.

In \_\_\_\_\_

d. I have seldom heard such beautiful singing.

Seldom \_\_\_\_\_

e. Peter didn't realize that he had lost his keys until he got home.

Not \_\_\_\_\_

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

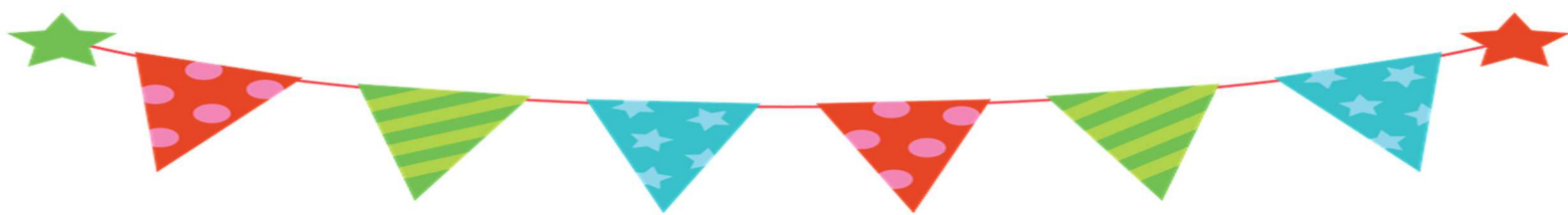
\_\_\_\_\_

g. There are no circumstances where audience members may consume alcohol.

Under no circumstances \_\_\_\_\_

h. They started to argue soon after they had got married.

No sooner \_\_\_\_\_



- i. You can't use my new car at any time.

At no time \_\_\_\_\_

## EXERCISE 2

### REWRITE THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES USING INVERSION.

- a. The gang didn't know that the police had them under surveillance.

Little \_\_\_\_\_

- b. We won't consider you for the basketball team until you grow up.

Not until \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Nobody has won so many matches for his team since 1994.

Not since \_\_\_\_\_

- d. You will not be allowed to enter the auditorium under any circumstances once the play has started.

Under no circumstances \_\_\_\_\_

- e. He would never play in front of a live audience again.

Never \_\_\_\_\_

- f. Amy had not enjoyed herself so much since she went to the circus as a child.

Not since \_\_\_\_\_

- g. I have never seen such a terrible performance of Hamlet before.

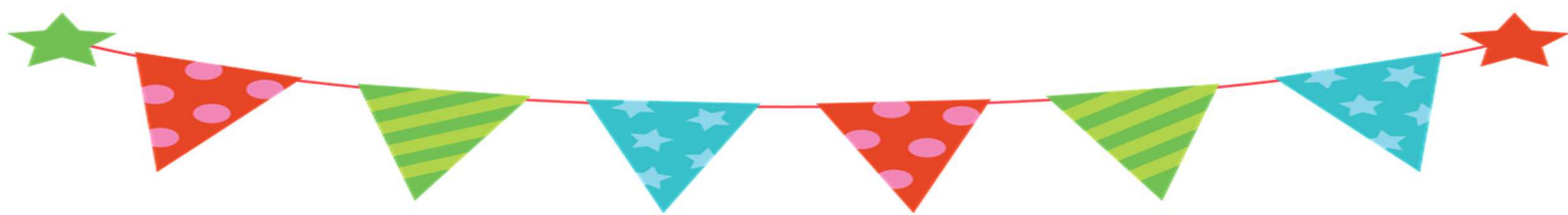
Never before \_\_\_\_\_

- h. They only realized the painting had been hung upside down when someone complained at reception.

Only when \_\_\_\_\_

- i. I had been in the room for a few minutes when I realized that everyone was staring at me.

Only after \_\_\_\_\_



j. He discovered that he had injured his knee when he tried to run.

Only when \_\_\_\_\_

k. The new park was hardly finished when vandals destroyed the flowerbeds.

Hardly \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

l. You shouldn't sign a contract you haven't read thoroughly under any circumstances.

Under no circumstances \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### EXERCISE 3

#### CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO COMPLETE THE SENTENCES

1. \_\_\_\_\_ that I was speaking to someone as important as

Professor Sims.

a) Little have I known

b) Little did I know

c) Little I knew

d) I knew little

2. In no way \_\_\_\_\_ question his honesty, although I think that he made some wrong decisions.

a) did I ever

b) I ever did

c) had I ever

d) I had ever

3. Hardly \_\_\_\_\_ we were told that it would soon be time for lunch.



- a) we had finished breakfast that
- b) had we finished breakfast that
- c) had we finished breakfast when
- d) we had finished breakfast when

4. At no time before I accepted the job \_\_\_\_\_ that I would have to do so much travelling around the country.

- a) did they told
- b) I was told
- c) I had been told
- d) was I told

5. Not since the 1960s \_\_\_\_\_ attended an anti-war demonstration in London.

- a) so many people have
- b) have so many people
- c) did so many people have
- d) had so many people had

#### EXERCISE 4

**COMPLETE USING THE WORDS IN BRACKETS WITH THE VERB IN THE CORRECT FORM.**

- a. Not until the area is made safe \_\_\_\_\_  
(construction/can continue).
- b. In no way \_\_\_\_\_ (the  
announcement/affect) how strongly we felt about the situation.
- c. Seldom \_\_\_\_\_ (you/see) a vintage  
car in quite such good condition these days.
- d. Not only \_\_\_\_\_ (Jerry/forget) my birthday,  
but he also forgot our wedding anniversary.



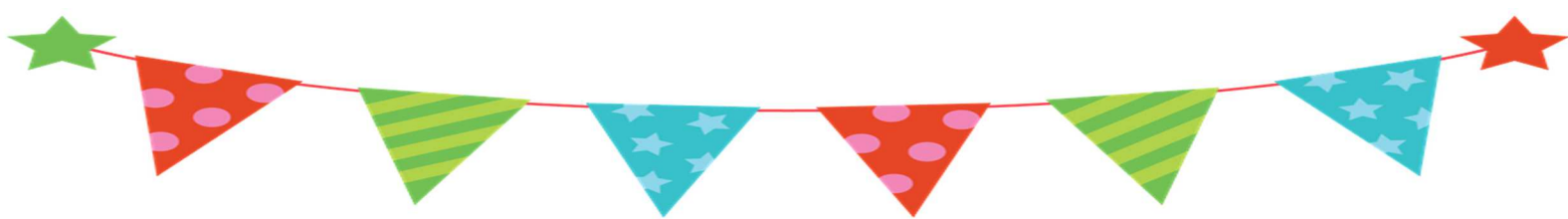
- e. At no time \_\_\_\_\_ (I/ask) my opinion on the subject.
- f. Only when I checked the ticket again \_\_\_\_\_ (I/realise) that I had won first prize!
- g. Only if the weather is clear \_\_\_\_\_ (the space shuttle/will allow) to launch.
- h. Such \_\_\_\_\_ (the media interest/be) in the wedding that there were over a dozen photographers.

### EXERCISE 5

#### COMPLETE USING THE WORDS AND PHRASES IN THE BOX.

AT NO POINT   IN NO WAY   LITTLE   NEVER   NOT   NOT ONLY   NO SOONER  
ONLY AFTER   SCARCELY   ON NO ACCOUNT   RARELY   UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ were the security guards to blame for what happened.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ once did the old woman thank me for helping her.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ seeing the doctor was Theresa allowed to leave hospital.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ will passengers be allowed to carry more than 2 pieces of hand luggage.
- e. \_\_\_\_\_ were they late to work, but they also forgot to bring the reports.
- f. \_\_\_\_\_ during the party did anyone mention that Peter and Julie were getting married.
- g. \_\_\_\_\_ had Alan arrived in Mexico when he was arrested.
- h. \_\_\_\_\_ did the passengers know that the driver was really an undercover police officer.
- i. \_\_\_\_\_ do you meet anyone as charming as Mr Peterson.



- j. \_\_\_\_\_ should unaccompanied children be allowed to enter the pub.
- k. \_\_\_\_\_ before has the company found itself facing such stiff competition.
- l. \_\_\_\_\_ had the alarm gone off than the police cars arrived

## ANSWERS

### EXERCISE 1

- a. Only in the last few pages of the book do you come to realise the significance of the murder.
- b. Such are the demands of her job that she is rarely able to take a holiday
- c. In no other way could the matter be explained.
- d. Seldom have I heard such beautiful singing.
- e. Not until he got home did Peter realize that he had lost his keys.
- f. Had Mr Chan been kinder to his employees, his business would not have collapsed.
- g. Under no circumstances may audience members consume alcohol
- h. No sooner had they got married than they started to argue.
- i. At no time can you use my new car.

### EXERCISE 2

- a. Little did the gang know that the police had them under surveillance.
- b. Not until you grow up will we consider you for the basketball team.
- c. Not since 1994 has anybody won so many matches for his team.
- d. Under no circumstances will you be allowed to enter the auditorium once the play has started.



- e. Never would he play in front of a live audience again. Never again would he play in front of a live audience.
- f. Not since she went to the circus as a child had Amy enjoyed herself so much.
- g. Never before have I seen such a terrible performance of Hamlet.
- h. Only when someone complained at reception did they realize the painting had been hung upside down.
- i. Only after I had been in the room for a few minutes did I realize that everyone was staring at me.
- j. Only when he tried to run did he discover that he had injured his knee.
- k. Hardly was the new park finished when vandals destroyed the flowerbeds.
- l. Under no circumstances should you sign a contract you haven't read thoroughly.

### EXERCISE 3

- a. B
- b. A
- c. C
- d. D
- e. B

### EXERCISE 4

- a. Not until the area is made safe can construction continue.
- b. In no way did the announcement affect how strongly we felt about the situation.
- c. Seldom do you see a vintage car in quite such good condition these days.
- d. Not only did Jerry forget/had Jerry forgotten my birthday, but he also forgot our wedding anniversary.
- e. At no time was I asked/had I been asked my opinion on the subject.
- f. Only when I checked the ticket again did I realise that I had won first prize!



- g.** Only if the weather is clear will the space shuttle allow to launch.
- h.** Such was the media interest in the wedding that there were over a dozen photographers.

#### **EXERCISE 5**

- a.** In no way were the security guards to blame for what happened.
- b.** Not once did the old woman thank me for helping her.
- c.** Only after seeing the doctor was Theresa allowed to leave hospital.
- d.** On no account/Under no circumstances will passengers be allowed to carry more than 2 pieces of hand luggage.
- e.** Not only were they late to work, but they also forgot to bring the reports.
- f.** At no point during the party did anyone mention that Peter and Julie were getting married.
- g.** Scarcely had Alan arrived in Mexico when he was arrested.
- h.** Little did the passengers know that the driver was really an undercover police officer.
- i.** Rarely do you meet anyone as charming as Mr Peterson.
- j.** Under no circumstances should /On no account unaccompanied children be allowed to enter the pub.
- k.** Never before has the company found itself facing such stiff competition.
- l.** No sooner had the alarm gone off than the police cars arrived