

Inversion with Negative Adverbials - Worksheet 1 – ANSWERS



Exercise 1: Gap-Fill (Using the Correct Inversion Structure) – Answers

1. **Never have I seen** such a beautiful sunset.
→ "Never" moves to the front, causing inversion (auxiliary + subject + verb).
 2. **No sooner had I left** the house **than** it started raining.
→ "No sooner" is followed by past perfect, and "than" introduces the result.
 3. **Rarely do I go** to the cinema these days.
→ "Rarely" is an adverb of frequency that triggers inversion.
 4. **Not until much later did she realize** her mistake.
→ "Not until" affects the main verb, not the subordinate clause.
 5. **Hardly had he begun** his speech **when** the fire alarm went off.
→ "Hardly" follows the same pattern as "no sooner."
 6. **Barely had I finished** my exam **when** the time was up.
→ "Barely" works like "hardly" and "no sooner."
 7. **Never have I been** so embarrassed in my life.
→ "Never" requires inversion when placed at the beginning.
 8. **Only after the teacher explained it again did the children understand** the problem.
→ "Only after" affects the main verb of the sentence.
 9. **Not since my trip to Italy have I had** such a great meal.
→ "Not since" applies to the main clause.
 10. **Not often do you see** such a brave act.
→ "Not often" as a restrictive adverb causes inversion.
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Exercise 2: Error Correction (Fixing Common Mistakes) – Answers

1. ✗ Nowhere I could find my missing wallet.
✓ **Nowhere could I find** my missing wallet.
2. ✗ No sooner I arrived than the meeting started.
✓ **No sooner had I arrived** than the meeting started.
3. ✗ Not often do we see such impressive performances.
✓ **Correct as it is!**
4. ✗ Seldom I have met someone as kind as her.
✓ **Seldom have I met** someone as kind as her.
5. ✗ Rarely you will find such honesty in politics.
✓ **Rarely will you find** such honesty in politics.
6. ✗ Only now I understand how difficult the task is.
✓ **Only now do I understand** how difficult the task is.
7. ✗ Not until the investigation ended, we knew the truth.
✓ **Not until the investigation ended did we know** the truth.
8. ✗ Never she has been so insulted in her life!
✓ **Never has she been** so insulted in her life!
9. ✗ Hardly we had finished eating when the waiter took our plates.
✓ **Hardly had we finished** eating when the waiter took our plates.
10. ✗ Not since years ago I have visited my hometown.
✓ **Not since years ago have I visited** my hometown.

Explanation:

- "Hardly," "Never," "Rarely," "Not until," etc., require inversion.
- When "No sooner" is used, it takes past perfect ("had + past participle").
- "Only now" and "Not often" affect the main clause, causing inversion.