

BOTH-AND / EITHER-OR / NEITHER-NOR / NOT ONLY-BUT ALSO

I. Both A and B:

- A and B need to belong to **the same word class (nouns, verbs, adjectives, ...)**
That girl is both beautiful and talented. (Adjectives)
She works as both a doctor and a singer. (Nouns)
- If A and B are **Subjects**, the verb is **in plural**.
Both I and Jonathan speak French.
- **Both of + plural Noun + plural Verb**
Both of the students are Canadians.

II. Either A or B:

- A and B need to belong to **the same word class (nouns, verbs, adjectives, ...)**
You can choose to buy either a skirt or a dress. (Nouns)
You either buy it at the shop or order it online. (Verbs)
3 options +: *They can either go shopping, go skating or watch a movie.*
- If A and B are Subjects, the verb **agrees with the SECOND Subject**.
Either the wheels or the engine is broken.
- **Either of + plural Noun + singular Verb**
Would you like tea or coffee? - Either of those is fine.
Does either of you fancy going to the cinema?

III. Neither A nor B:

Neither ... nor ... CAN NOT go with negative verbs.

- A and B need to belong to **the same word class (nouns, verbs, adjectives, ...)**
*His jokes **are** neither funny nor polite. (Adjectives)*
*= (His jokes **aren't** either funny or polite.)*
*I **can** neither speak nor write in Italian. (Verbs)*
*= (I **can't** either speak or write in Italian.)*
3 options +: *They neither review their lessons, do homework nor prepare the new words.*
- If A and B are Subjects, the verb **agrees with the SECOND Subject**.
Neither the students nor the teacher likes the principal.
- **Neither of + plural Noun + singular Verb**
Neither of those people in the accident is alive.

IV. Not only A but also B:

- A and B need to belong to **the same word class (nouns, verbs, adjectives, ...)**
James is not only dumb but also crazy. (Adjective)
The kids not only love spaghetti but also love pizza. (Verbs)
My dad likes not only cheese but also tomato. (Nouns)
- If A and B are Subjects, the verb **agrees with the SECOND Subject**.
Not only the children but also their mother shows love to the father.

Compiled by C-Plus English

- If Not only is used to begin a clause: **Not only + Aux + S + V...**
Not only does she love cooking, **but** she **also** likes travelling.
She **not only** loves cooking **but also** likes travelling.

NOTE: Not only ... but ... as well.

Not only does she love cooking, **but** she likes travelling as well.