

Inversion in English Worksheet

Advanced C1-C2 · Side A

Name: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 20

Exercise A · Rewrite using inversion (Q1-5)

Begin with the word or phrase given.

1. I had never seen such a beautiful sunset. (Never)
-> _____
2. She not only won the race but also broke the record. (Not only)
-> _____
3. We had barely sat down when the alarm rang. (Barely)
-> _____
4. He rarely makes mistakes. (Rarely)
-> _____
5. I little realised what was about to happen. (Little)
-> _____

Exercise B · True or False (Q6-10)

Write T (true) or F (false).

6. Inversion involves placing the auxiliary verb before the subject.
Answer: _____
7. Inversion is used after negative and restrictive adverbials.
Answer: _____
8. 'Rarely he goes out' is a correct inversion.
Answer: _____
9. 'Not only ... but also' triggers inversion in the first clause.
Answer: _____
10. Inversion is mostly found in formal and literary contexts.
Answer: _____

Inversion in English Worksheet - Side B

Advanced C1-C2

Exercise C · Correct the inversion (Q11-14)

Rewrite each sentence with correct inversion.

11. Hardly I had arrived when it started to rain.

-> _____

12. Never she has spoken to me like that.

-> _____

13. Not only she was late, but she forgot her ID.

-> _____

14. Seldom we see such dedication.

-> _____

Exercise D · Multiple choice (Q15-17)

Choose the correct inverted form.

15. ___ I seen so many people in one place.

(a) Rarely have (b) Rarely did (c) Rarely I have

16. No sooner ___ down than the phone rang.

(a) I sat (b) had I sat (c) did I sit

17. Not until the next morning ___ what had happened.

(a) they realised (b) did they realise (c) they did realise

Exercise E · Write your own inversions (Q18-20)

Use each negative adverbial to begin a sentence.

18. 'Never' ->

-> _____

19. 'Not only ... but also' ->

-> _____

20. 'Hardly ... when' ->

-> _____

Answer Sheet - Inversion in English Worksheet

For teacher / self-marking use
only

Exercise A - Rewrite using inversion

Q1-5

1. Never had I seen such a beautiful sunset.
2. Not only did she win the race, but she also broke the record.
3. Barely had we sat down when the alarm rang.
4. Rarely does he make mistakes.
5. Little did I realise what was about to happen.

Exercise B - True or False

Q6-10

6. T
7. T
8. F
9. T
10. T

Exercise C - Correct the inversion

Q11-14

11. Hardly had I arrived when it started to rain.
12. Never has she spoken to me like that.
13. Not only was she late, but she also forgot her ID.
14. Seldom do we see such dedication.

Exercise D - Multiple choice

Q15-17

15. Rarely have
16. had I sat
17. did they realise

Exercise E - Write your own inversions

Q18-20

18. (own answer)
19. (own answer)
20. (own answer)

Total: 20 points | Side A: Q1-10 | Side B: Q11-20