

## Cambridge Proficiency Use of English practice of inversion

### Use of English Part Three word formation practice of inversion

*Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space. As in the real test, don't leave the word unchanged, check for negatives/ opposites, make sure the word makes sense in context, and be suspicious of answers that seem too easy.*

Under no \_\_\_\_\_ must you mix the green and yellow liquids. CIRCUMSTANCE

Little did he \_\_\_\_\_ how expensive it would turn out to be. REAL

Not until I got home did I \_\_\_\_\_ that I was wearing someone else's coat. MEMORY

No \_\_\_\_\_ was the pie put out to cool than it was stolen from the window. SOON

We never would have \_\_\_\_\_ had it not been for peanuts. SURVIVAL

Not only \_\_\_\_\_ he possess a Rolls Royce, but he has a chauffeur too. DO

So \_\_\_\_\_ was the advertising campaign that it became an ironic hit. IDIOT

\_\_\_\_\_ after he had eliminated all his enemies could he feel safe. LONE

At no \_\_\_\_\_ should American English be used. TIMING

Should you have any problems, \_\_\_\_\_ do not hesitate to contact me.  
PLEASURE

Such is the current \_\_\_\_\_ that the top 1% owns 90% of the country. EQUAL

\_\_\_\_\_ had we seen such a wonderful feast. HARD

On no \_\_\_\_\_ must we raise our voices. COUNT

Not for a \_\_\_\_\_ had I swallowed his story. MOMENTARILY

\_\_\_\_\_ else will you find such rare soul records. WHERE

\_\_\_\_\_ are such high prices paid for such dull art. RARE

\_\_\_\_\_ was there any chance for redemption. SCARCE

\_\_\_\_\_ had I started my career when my job became obsolete. BARE

You are not right about this, but then again \_\_\_\_\_ is he. EITHER

You don't have the legal right to do this and, in my humble opinion, \_\_\_\_\_ do you have the moral right. OR

**Suggested answers**

*Other answers might be possible, so please check if you wrote something different.*

Under no circumstances must you mix the green and yellow liquids. CIRCUMSTANCE

Little did he realise how expensive it would turn out to be. REAL

Not until I got home did I remember that I was wearing someone else's coat. MEMORY

No sooner was the pie put out to cool than it was stolen from the window. SOON

We never would have survived had it not been for the peanuts. SURVIVAL

Not only does he possess a Rolls Royce, but he has a chauffeur too. DO

So idiotic was the advertising campaign that it became an ironic hit. IDIOT

Only after he had eliminated all his enemies could he feel safe. LONE

At no time should American English be used. TIMING

Should you have any problems, please do not hesitate to contact me. PLEASURE

Such is the current inequality that the top 1% owns 90% of the country. EQUAL

Hardly had we seen such a wonderful feast. HARD

On no account must we raise our voices. COUNT

Not for a moment had I swallowed his story. MOMENTARILY

Nowhere else will you find such rare soul records. WHERE

Rarely are such high prices paid for such dull art. RARE

Scarcely was there any chance for redemption. SCARCE

Barely had I started my career when my job became obsolete. BARE

You are not right about this, but then again neither is he. EITHER

You don't have the legal right to do this and, in my humble opinion, nor do you have the moral right. OR

**Inversion Use of English Part Two open cloze**

Read the sentences below and think of a word that best fits each space. Use only one word in each space.

Under \_\_\_\_\_ circumstances should anyone leave the shelter until the all clear is sounded.

Little \_\_\_\_\_ she know that the bank had already been emptied.

Not \_\_\_\_\_ I got home did I remember that I'd left my keys at work.

No \_\_\_\_\_ had I said the words than I instantly regretted speaking out.

Had \_\_\_\_\_ not been for the intervention of the referee, it would have turned into fisticuffs.

\_\_\_\_\_ had I seen such a sight before.

Not \_\_\_\_\_ did he leave the door unlocked, but he left all the windows open too.

\_\_\_\_\_ tragic was his fate that journalists came from all over the world to report on it.

\_\_\_\_\_ when the last rebel is killed will the slaughter stop.

Only under certain conditions \_\_\_\_\_ you withdraw over one million dollars at one time.

\_\_\_\_\_ no time was he left unsupervised.

Such was the scandal \_\_\_\_\_ the whole tour was cancelled.

Hardly had I stopped being a child \_\_\_\_\_ I found that I had a child of my own.

So \_\_\_\_\_ cars were there that people took to picnicking on the street.

So \_\_\_\_\_ information was there that rumours filled its place.

\_\_\_\_\_ no account can we risk this information leaking.

Never \_\_\_\_\_ that change from this day forth.

Never \_\_\_\_\_ I seen such a disgusting-looking pizza.

Not \_\_\_\_\_ a moment was it accepted by the employees.

Rarely \_\_\_\_\_ we so happy on a Monday morning.

\_\_\_\_\_ they to arrive now, it would be extremely embarrassing.

Not \_\_\_\_\_ I moved to France had I experienced such rudeness.

Had I not seen it with my own eyes, I \_\_\_\_\_ never have believed it.

Not for \_\_\_\_\_ minute did she suspect her sister.

\_\_\_\_\_ no way was that a good plan.

Should you get lost, \_\_\_\_\_ call.

Scarcely \_\_\_\_\_ we survive the ordeal.

Seldom \_\_\_\_\_ I felt such shame.

I wrote down every track that I wanted to play. Only \_\_\_\_\_ did I feel ready for the party.

Only \_\_\_\_\_ writing down every track that I wanted to play did I feel ready for the party.

\_\_\_\_\_ until every last thing has been tried will I give up.

Had it not been for the \_\_\_\_\_ that he was my brother, I would have fired him years earlier.

Not \_\_\_\_\_ I was a teenager have I felt so nervous about a date.

### Suggested answers

*Other answers might be possible, so please check if you wrote something different.*

- Under no circumstances should anyone leave the shelter until the all clear is sounded.
- Little did she know that the bank had already been emptied.
- Not until I got home did I remember that I'd left my keys at work.
- No sooner had I said the words than I instantly regretted speaking out.
- Had it not been for the intervention of the referee, it would have turned into fisticuffs.
- Never/ Rarely had I seen such a sight before.
- Not only did he leave the door unlocked, but he left all the windows open too.
- So tragic was his fate that journalists came from all over the world to report on it.
- Only when the last rebel is killed will the slaughter stop.
- Only under certain conditions can/ should/ could you withdraw over one million dollars at one time.
- At no time was he left unsupervised.
- Such was the scandal that the whole tour was cancelled.
- Hardly had I stopped being a child than/ when I found that I had a child of my own.
- So few cars were there that people took to picnicking on the street.
- So little information was there that rumours filled its place.
- On no account can we risk this information leaking.
- Never will that change from this day forth.
- Never have I seen such a disgusting-looking pizza.
- Not for a moment was it accepted by the employees.
- Rarely are/ were we so happy on a Monday morning.
- Were they to arrive now, it would be extremely embarrassing.
- Not until I moved to France had I experienced such rudeness.
- Had I not seen it with my own eyes, I would never have believed it.
- Not for a/ one minute did she suspect her sister.
- In no way was that a good plan.
- Should you get lost, please/ just call.
- Scarcely could we survive the ordeal.
- Seldom have/ had I felt such shame.
- I wrote down every track that I wanted to play. Only then did I feel ready for the party.
- Only after/ by writing down every track that I wanted to play did I feel ready for the party.
- Not until every last thing has been tried will I give up.
- Had it not been for the fact that he was my brother, I would have fired him years earlier.
- Not since I was a teenager have I felt so nervous about a date.

### Inversion Use of English Part Four key word sentence transformations

For each question below, complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. **Do not change the word given.** You must use between **three** and **eight** words, including the word given.

She had no idea that the company was suffering from severe financial difficulties. IN  
Little \_\_\_\_\_ severe financial difficulties.

I had been working there only a very short time when the company went bankrupt. STARTED  
No \_\_\_\_\_ than the company went bankrupt.

We never would have survived if not for a dolphin helping. HAD  
We never would have survived \_\_\_\_\_ help of a dolphin.

He spread rumours about me and wrote them on the bathroom wall too. DID  
Not \_\_\_\_\_ he wrote them on the bathroom wall.

He had made such a nonsensical plan that everyone ridiculed him. WHAT  
Everyone ridiculed him, so \_\_\_\_\_ planned.

The picnic was only able to start when he had killed the last wasp. COULD  
Only \_\_\_\_\_ the picnic start.

You should never drink caffeine during pregnancy. WHILE  
At no \_\_\_\_\_ are pregnant.

There was so much demand for the cherry pies that we had to bake twice as many pies as usual. THE  
We had to bake twice as many pies as usual, such \_\_\_\_\_ ones.

Because there were an extremely low number of objections, the trial finished in record time. THAT  
So \_\_\_\_\_ the trial finished in record time.

I have rarely felt the level of embarrassment that I did on that day. AS  
Seldom \_\_\_\_\_ I did on that day.

You won't have such a Dutch experience anywhere outside of the Netherlands. WILL  
Outside of the Netherlands, \_\_\_\_\_ such a Dutch experience.

### Suggested answers

*Other answers might be possible, so please check if you wrote something different.*

She had no idea that the company was suffering from severe financial difficulties. IN  
**Little did she realise/ know that the company was in severe financial difficulties.**

I had been working there only a very short time when the company went bankrupt.  
STARTED

**No sooner had I started working there than the company went bankrupt.**

We never would have survived if not for a dolphin helping. HAD  
**We never would have survived had it not been for the help of a dolphin.**

He spread rumours about me and wrote them on the bathroom wall too. DID  
**Not only did he spread rumours about me, but he wrote them on the bathroom wall.**

He had made such a nonsensical plan that everyone ridiculed him. WHAT  
**Everyone ridiculed him, so nonsensical was what he had planned.**

The picnic was only able to start when he had killed the last wasp. COULD  
**Only after/ when he had killed the last wasp could the picnic start.**

You should never drink caffeine during pregnancy. WHILE  
**At no time should you drink caffeine while you are pregnant.**

There was so much demand for the cherry pies that we had to bake twice as many pies as usual. THE  
**We had to bake twice as many pies as usual, such was the demand for the cherry ones.**

Because there were an extremely low number of objections, the trial finished in record time. THAT  
**So few objections were there that the trial finished in record time.**

I have rarely felt the level of embarrassment that I did on that day. AS  
**Seldom have/ had I felt as embarrassed as I did on that day.**

You won't have such a Dutch experience anywhere outside of the Netherlands. WILL  
**Outside of the Netherlands, nowhere will you have such a Dutch experience.**