

# Some and any

A

**some**



Use **some** in *positive* sentences:

- I'm going to buy **some** clothes.
- There's **some** ice in the fridge.
- We did **some** exercises.

**any**



Use **any** in *negative* sentences:

- I'm **not** going to buy **any** clothes.
- There **isn't** **any** orange juice in the fridge.
- We **didn't** do **any** exercises.

## B

### **any** and **some** in questions

In most questions (but not all) we use **any**:

- Is there **any** ice in the fridge?
- Has he got **any** friends?
- Do you need **any** help?

We normally use **some** (*not any*) when we *offer* things (**Would you like ... ?**):

- A: Would you like **some** coffee?  
B: Yes, please.

or when we *ask for* things (**Can I have ... ? etc.**):

- A: Can I have **some** soup, please?  
B: Yes. Help yourself.
- A: Can you lend me **some** money?  
B: Sure. How much do you need?





## C

**some** and **any** *without a noun*

- I didn't take any photographs but Ann took **some**. (= some photographs)
- You can have some coffee but I don't want **any**. (= any coffee)
- I've just made some coffee. Would you like **some**? (= some coffee)
- 'Where's your luggage?' 'I haven't got **any**.' (= any luggage)
- 'Are there any biscuits?' 'Yes, there are **some** in the kitchen.' (= some biscuits)

## D

**something** / **somebody** (*or someone*)

- She said **something**.
- I saw **somebody** (*or someone*).
- Would you like **something** to eat?
- Quick! **Somebody's** coming.

**anything** / **anybody** (*or anyone*)

- She didn't say **anything**.
- I didn't see **anybody** (*or anyone*).
- Are you doing **anything** this evening?
- Where's Ann? Has **anybody** seen her?

# Exercises

## 1. Put in **some** or **any**.

- 1 I bought some cheese but I didn't buy any bread.
- 2 I'm going to the post office. I need ..... stamps.
- 3 There aren't ..... shops in this part of town.
- 4 George and Alice haven't got ..... children.
- 5 Have you got ..... brothers or sisters?
- 6 There are ..... beautiful flowers in the garden.
- 7 Do you know ..... good hotels in London?
- 8 'Would you like ..... tea?' 'Yes, please.'
- 9 When we were on holiday, we visited ..... very interesting places.
- 10 Don't buy ..... rice. We don't need .....
- 11 I went out to buy ..... milk but they didn't have ..... in the shop.
- 12 I'm thirsty. Can I have ..... water, please?



2. Complete the sentences. Use **some** or **any** + one of these words:

<b>air</b>	<b>cheese</b>	<b>help</b>	<b>letters</b>	<b>photographs</b>
<b>batteries</b>	<b>friends</b>	<b>languages</b>	<b>milk</b>	<b>shampoo</b>

- 1 I want to wash my hair. Is there any shampoo ?
- 2 This evening I'm going to write .....
- 3 I haven't got my camera, so I can't take .....
- 4 Do you speak ..... foreign ..... ?
- 5 Yesterday evening I went to a restaurant with ..... of mine.
- 6 Can I have ..... in my coffee, please?
- 7 The radio isn't working. There aren't ..... in it.
- 8 It's hot in this office. I'm going out for ..... fresh .....
- 9 'Would you like ..... ?' 'No, thank you. I've had enough to eat.'
- 10 I can do this job alone. I don't need .....

3. Complete the sentences. Use **some** or **any**.

- 1 Ann didn't take any photographs but I took some . (I/take)
- 2 'Where's your luggage?' ' I haven't got any . ' (I/not/have)
- 3 'Do you need any money?' 'No, thank you. ....' (I/have)
- 4 'Can you lend me some money?' 'I'm sorry but ....' (I/not/have)
- 5 The tomatoes in the shop didn't look very good, so .... (I/not/buy)
- 6 There were some nice oranges in the shop, so .... (I/buy)

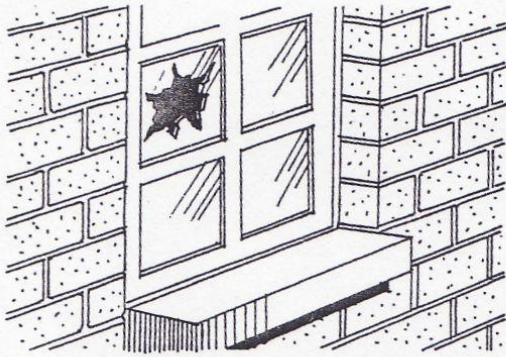
4. Put in **something/somebody/anything/anybody**.

- 1 She said something to me but I didn't understand it.
- 2 'What's wrong?' 'There's ..... in my eye.'
- 3 Do you know ..... about politics?
- 4 I went to the shop but I didn't buy .....
- 5 ..... has broken the window. I don't know who.
- 6 There isn't ..... in the bag. It's empty.
- 7 I'm looking for my keys. Has ..... seen them?
- 8 Would you like ..... to drink?
- 9 I didn't eat ..... because I wasn't hungry.
- 10 This is a secret. Please don't tell .....



# Somebody/anything/nowhere etc

A



**Somebody** (or **someone**)  
has broken the window.

**somebody/someone** = a  
person but we don't know who



She has got **something** in  
her mouth.

**something** = a thing but we  
don't know what



Tom lives **somewhere** near  
London.

**somewhere** = in/to a place but  
we don't know where

# B

people (-body or -one)

**somebody** or **someone**

**anybody** or **anyone**

**nobody** or **no-one**

- There is **somebody** (or **someone**) in the garden.
- Is there **anybody** (or **anyone**) in the garden?
- There isn't **anybody** (or **anyone**) in the garden.
- There is **nobody** (or **no-one**) in the garden.

**-body** and **-one** are the same: **somebody** = **someone**, **nobody** = **no-one** etc.

things (-thing)

**something**

**anything**

**nothing**

- She said **something** but I didn't understand her.
- Are you doing **anything** at the weekend?
- I was angry but I didn't say **anything**.
- 'What did you say?' 'Nothing.'

places (-where)

**somewhere**

**anywhere**

**nowhere**

- They live **somewhere** in the south of England.
- Did you go **anywhere** interesting for your holidays?
- I'm staying here. I'm **not** going **anywhere**.
- I don't like this town. There is **nowhere** to go.



## C

**something/anybody** *etc.* + *adjective* (**big/cheap/interesting** *etc.*)

- Did you meet **anybody interesting** at the party?
- We always go to the same place. Let's go **somewhere different**.
- 'What's that letter?' 'It's **nothing important**.'

## D

**something/anybody** *etc.* + **to ...**

- I'm hungry. I want **something to eat**. (= something that I can eat)
- He hasn't got **anybody to talk** to. (= anybody that he can talk to)
- There is **nowhere to go** in this town. (= nowhere where people can go)

# Exercises

1. Put in **somebody** (or **someone**) / **something** / **somewhere**.

- 1 She said something.....  
2 I've lost .....  
3 They went .....  
4 I'm going to phone .....

What did she say?  
What have you lost?  
Where did they go?  
Who are you going to phone?

2. Put in **nobody** (or **no-one**) / **nothing** / **nowhere**.

- 1a What did you say?  
2a Where are you going?  
3a What do you want?  
4a Who are you looking for?

Nothing.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

Now answer the same questions with full sentences. Use **not + anybody/anything/anywhere**.

1b I didn't say anything.....

2b I'm not .....

3b .....

4b .....



3. Put in **somebody/anything/nowhere** etc.

- 1 It's dark. I can't see anything .
- 2 Tom lives somewhere near London.
- 3 Do you know ..... about computers?
- 4 'Listen!' 'What? I can't hear .....
- 5 'What are you doing here?' 'I'm waiting for .....
- 6 Please listen carefully. There's ..... I want to tell you.
- 7 'Did ..... see the accident?' 'No, .....
- 8 We weren't hungry, so we didn't eat .....
- 9 'What's going to happen?' 'I don't know. .... knows.'
- 10 'Do you know ..... in London?' 'Yes, a few people.'
- 11 'What's in that cupboard?' '..... . It's empty.'
- 12 I'm looking for my glasses. I can't find them .....
- 13 I don't like cold weather. I want to live ..... warm.
- 14 Is there ..... interesting on television tonight?
- 15 Have you ever met ..... famous?

4. Complete the sentences. Choose from Box A and Box B.

A

something	anything	nothing
somewhere	anywhere	nowhere

*You can use these words more than once.*

B

do	drink	eat	go
play	read	sit	stay

- 1 We don't go out very much because there's nowhere to go .
- 2 There isn't any food in the house. We haven't got .....
- 3 I'm bored. I've got .....
- 4 'Why are you standing?' 'Because there isn't .....
- 5 'Would you like ..... ?' 'Yes, please – a glass of orange juice.'
- 6 All the hotels were full. There was .....
- 7 I want ..... I'm going to buy a magazine.
- 8 Children need .....

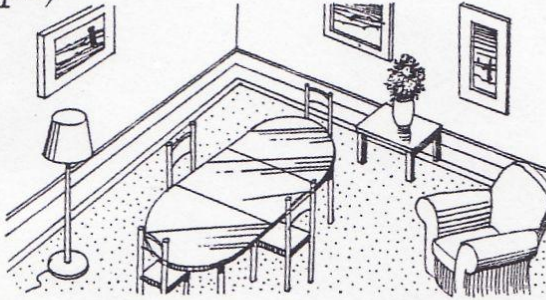


# not + anybody/anyone/anything

## nobody/no-one/nothing

A

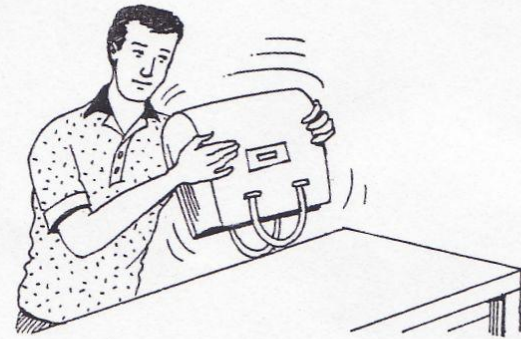
not + anybody/anyone  
nobody/no-one  
(for people)



- There **isn't**  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{anybody} \\ \text{anyone} \end{array} \right\}$  in the room.
- There **is**  $\left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{nobody} \\ \text{no-one} \end{array} \right\}$  in the room.
- A: **Who** is in the room?  
B: **Nobody.** / **No-one.**

anybody = anyone    nobody = no-one  
(-body and -one are the same)

not + anything  
nothing  
(for things)



- There **isn't** **anything** in the bag.
- There **is** **nothing** in the bag.
- A: **What's** in the bag?  
B: **Nothing.**



**B****not + anybody/anyone**

- I don't know **anybody** (or **anyone**) here.

**nobody = not + anybody****no-one = not + anyone**

- I'm lonely. I've got **nobody** to talk to.  
(= I haven't got **anybody**)
- The house is empty. There is **no-one** in it.  
(= There isn't **anyone** in it.)

**not + anything**

- I can't remember **anything**.

**nothing = not + anything**

- She said **nothing**.  
(= She didn't say **anything**.)
- There's **nothing** to eat.  
(= There isn't **anything** to eat.)

**C**

You can use **nobody/no-one/nothing** at the beginning of a sentence or alone (to answer a question):

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The house is empty. <b>Nobody</b> lives there.<br/>(not 'Anybody lives there')</li> <li>● 'Who did you speak to?' <b>'No-one.'</b></li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Nothing</b> happened.<br/>(not 'Anything happened')</li> <li>● 'What did you say?' <b>'Nothing.'</b></li> </ul> |
|--|---|

**D**

Remember: *negative verb* + **anybody/anyone/anything**  
*positive verb* + **nobody/no-one/nothing**

- He doesn't know **anything**. (not 'He doesn't know nothing')
- Don't tell **anybody**. (not 'Don't tell nobody')
- There **is nothing** to do in this town. (not 'There isn't nothing')



# Exercises

1. Write these sentences again with **nobody/no-one** or **nothing**.

1 There isn't anything in the bag.

*There's nothing in the bag.*

2 There isn't anybody in the office.

There's .....

3 I haven't got anything to do.

I .....

4 There isn't anything on TV.

.....

5 There wasn't anyone at home.

.....

6 We didn't find anything.

.....

2. Write these sentences again with **anybody/anyone** or **anything**.

1 There's nothing in the bag.

*There isn't anything in the bag.*

2 There was nobody on the bus.

There wasn't .....

3 I've got nothing to read.

.....

4 I've got no-one to help me.

.....

5 She heard nothing.

.....

6 We've got nothing for dinner.

.....



3. Answer these questions with **nobody/no-one** or **nothing**.

1a What did you say? Nothing.....

2a Who saw you? Nobody.....

3a What do you want? .....

4a Who did you meet? .....

5a Who knows the answer? .....

6a What did you buy? .....

7a What happened? .....

8a Who was late? .....

Now answer the same questions with full sentences.

Use **nobody/no-one/nothing** or **anybody/anyone/anything**.

1b I didn't say anything.....

2b Nobody saw me.....

3b I don't .....

4b I .....

5b ..... the answer.

6b .....

7b .....

8b .....

4. Complete the sentences. Use **nobody/no-one/nothing/anybody/anyone/anything**.

1 That house is empty. Nobody..... lives there.

2 Jack has a bad memory. He can't remember anything.....

3 Be quiet! Don't say .....

4 I didn't know about the meeting. .... told me.

5 'What did you have to eat?' '..... I wasn't hungry.'

6 I didn't eat ..... I wasn't hungry.

7 Jenny was sitting alone. She wasn't with .....

8 I'm afraid I can't help you. There's ..... I can do.

9 I don't know ..... about car engines.

10 The museum is free. It doesn't cost ..... to go in.

11 I heard a knock on the door but when I opened it there was ..... there.

12 She spoke very fast. I didn't understand .....

13 'What are you doing this evening?' '..... Why?'

14 Helen has gone away. .... knows where she is. She didn't tell  
..... where she was going.