**Questions & Answers: Double Negatives**

**These words are NEGATIVE**:

**No Nobody Just Barely**

**Not Nowhere Except Hardly**

**None Neither Only Merely**

**No one Never Seldom Rarely**

**Nothing But (used as only) Scarcely**

**1.What is the first step in correcting a double negative?**

The first step in correcting a double negative is recognizing (underlining) the negative words in the sentence.

**2. What must you never do when correcting a double negative?**

When correcting a double negative, you must never change the meaning of the sentence.

**3. What is usually an easy way to correct a double negative using “no,” “no one,” “nobody,”**

**“nothing,” “none,” and “nowhere”?**

An easy way to correct a double negative using “no,” “no one,” “nobody,” “nothing,” “none,” or

“nowhere” is to change the “no” to “any.” These negative words now become positive: “any,” “anyone,”

“anybody,” “anything,” or “anywhere.”

**Examples of Double Negative with Corrections**

I **don’t** want **no** water. **Correction**: *I don’t want* ***any*** *water.*

There **aren’t** **no** apples in the refrigerator. **Correction**: *There aren’t* ***any*** *apples in the refrigerator.*

I **haven’t none**. **Correction**: *I haven’t* ***any.***

We **weren’t** **hardly** able to sleep. **Correction**: *We* ***were*** *hardly able to sleep.*

**Practice 1**

1. Marisol hadn’t never heard of the movie.
2. I haven’t no money for such things.
3. I have never seen any tanks.
4. There wasn’t no opportunity to go to the opera.
5. He isn’t hardly able to run to the bus.
6. I didn’t find nobody at the swimming pool.
7. I haven’t any bananas today.
8. He didn’t like none of these.
9. We weren’t but four players on the field.
10. I don’t have no money to give you.

**Practice 2**

1. I couldn’t hardly speak.
2. She hasn’t no food.
3. I am sure they didn’t have no other car.
4. Dad can’t hardly hear me from my room.
5. Rover won’t bite nobody.
6. I am sure she hasn’t no books for us.
7. I didn’t run into no one I knew at the game.
8. Tommy hasn’t done nothing today.
9. Grandma didn’t have no chocolate yesterday.
10. I didn’t see the kite nowhere.

**Practice 3**

1. Carlos didn’t see nobody around.
2. Can’t you find no milk?
3. He was not allowed to go nowhere.
4. Dad say she can’t never trust him.
5. The boys haven’t any clothing to wear.
6. It wasn’t hardly midnight when we saw

the moon.

1. In the beginning, they weren’t hardly surprised.
2. There wasn’t nobody in school so late.
3. It was so warm the dog couldn’t scarcely move.
4. It don’t make no difference anyway.
5. It don’t matter no how.
6. Didn’t you notice that there was no oil in

the car.

1. It wasn’t nowhere to be found.