

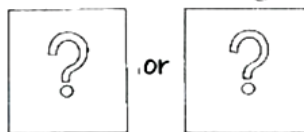
# both either neither

## A

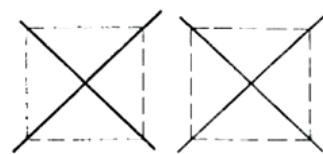
We use **both/either/neither** to talk about *two* things or people:



**both**



**either**



**neither (not + either)**

- Rosemary has two children. **Both** are married. (**Both** = the two children)
- Would you like tea or coffee? You can have **either**. (= tea *or* coffee)
- A: Do you want to go to the cinema or the theatre?  
B: **Neither**. I want to stay at home. (**Neither** = *not* the cinema *or* the theatre)

Compare **either** and **neither**:

- 'Would you like **tea or coffee**?' { 'Either. I don't mind.' (= tea *or* coffee)  
'I don't want **either**.' (= *not* 'I don't want neither')  
'Neither.' (= *not* tea *or* coffee)

## B

**both/either/neither** + *noun*

<b>both</b>	+	<i>plural:</i>	<b>both</b>	windows/books/children <i>etc.</i>
<b>either</b> <b>neither</b>	+	<i>singular:</i>	<b>either</b> <b>neither</b>	} window/book/child <i>etc.</i>

- Last year I went to Paris and Rome. I liked **both cities** very much.
- First I worked in an office, and later in a shop. **Neither job** was very interesting.
- There are two ways from here to the station. You can go **either way**.

## C

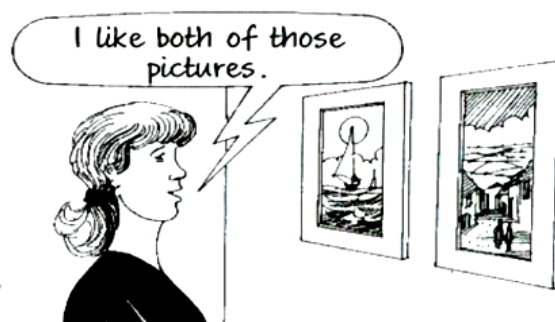
**both of ... / either of ... / neither of ...**

<b>both</b> <b>either</b> <b>neither</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>the ...</b> <b>these / those ...</b> <b>my / your / Ann's ... etc.</b>
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- Neither of my parents** is English.
- I haven't read **either of these books**.

You can say **both (of) the ... / both (of) those ... / both (of) my ... etc.** (*with or without of*):

- I like **both of those pictures**. *or* I like **both those pictures**.
- Both of Ann's sisters** are married. *or* **Both Ann's sisters** are married.



## D

**both of them / neither of us etc.**

<b>both</b> <b>either</b> <b>neither</b>	<b>of</b>	<b>them</b> <b>us</b> <b>you</b>
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- Ann has got two sisters. **Both of them** are married.
- Tom and I didn't eat anything. **Neither of us** was hungry.
- Who are those two people? I don't know **either of them**.

# EXERCISES

## 81.1 Put in **both**/**either**/**neither**. Use **of** where necessary.



- 1 Last year I went to Paris and Rome. I liked both cities very much.
- 2 There were two pictures on the wall. I didn't like either of them.
- 3 It was a good football match. .... teams played well.
- 4 It wasn't a good football match. .... team played well.
- 5 'Is your friend English or American?' '.....'. She's Australian.'
- 6 We went away for two days but the weather wasn't good. It rained on ..... days.
- 7 A: I bought two newspapers. Which one do you want?  
B: ..... It doesn't matter which one.
- 8 I invited Diana and Mike to the party but ..... them came.
- 9 'Do you go to work by car or by bus?' '.....'. I always walk.'
- 10 'Which jacket do you prefer, this one or that one?' 'I don't like ..... them.'
- 11 'Do you work or are you a student?' '.....'. I've got a job and I study too.'
- 12 Paula and I didn't know the time because ..... us had a watch.
- 13 Ann has got two sisters and a brother. .... sisters are married.
- 14 Ann has got two sisters and a brother. I've met her brother but I haven't met ..... her sisters.

## 81.2 Complete the sentences for the pictures. Use **Both ...** and **Neither ...**.



- 1 Both cups are empty.
- 2 ..... are open.
- 3 ..... wearing a hat.
- 4 ..... cameras.
- 5 ..... to the airport.
- 6 ..... right.

## 81.3 A man and a woman answered some questions. Their answers were the same. Write sentences with **Both/Neither of them ...**.

			
1 Are you married?	No	No	1 <u>Neither of them is married.</u>
2 How old are you?	21	21	2 <u>Both of them are 21.</u>
3 Are you a student?	Yes	Yes	3 ..... students.
4 Have you got a car?	No	No	4 ..... a car.
5 Where do you live?	London	London	5 .....
6 Do you like cooking?	Yes	Yes	6 .....
7 Can you play the piano?	No	No	7 .....
8 Do you read newspapers?	Yes	Yes	8 .....
9 Are you interested in sport?	No	No	9 .....