Sentence Negation

Clauses can be negated by using negative words such as never, not, nobody, or nothing, or by using the ending -nt on verbs In English Grammar, sentence negation is a type of negation that affects the meaning of an entire clause. Also known as sentential negation, clausal negation.

Sentence negation is commonly indicated in English by the negative particle not (or its reduced form, -nt).

Negation

Negative Contraction

Two Types of Sentence Negation

"It is usual to distinguish between two types of non-affixal sentence negation in English: firstly, negation with not or -n't; and secondly, negation with the negative words never, neither, nobody, no, none, nor, nothing and nowhere. sometimes visits us has the two

I did not cry.

I don't think anybody is in a position to give answers to social problems.

.My parents didn't want to move to Florida, but they turned sixty and that's the law

.Never in my life did I remember Mama staying in bed past sunrise

At no time did I feel threatened or in danger of violence.

Exclamative Sentence Negation

My throat's all tight, and there's no way I'm going to cry in front of strangers.

"In Standard English," says Charles Jones, "the negative word never is used to denote 'not at any time' or 'at no time.' However, in Scots, never can be used as an equivalent to the 'normal' negative construction, so that for 'John didn't get married' we can find 'John never got married.

It was not singing and it was not crying, coming up the stairs .

I can't remember when I wasn't singing out of the house.

I bet you've never smelled a real school bus before.

 . I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn't it

.Never trust anyone who has not brought a book with them

I have some rope up here, but I do not think you would accept my help, since I am only waiting around to kill you .

No zinc tub, no buckets of stove-heated water, no flaky, stiff, grayish towels washed in a kitchen sink, dried in a dusty backyard, no tangled black puffs of rough wool to comb .

She passed a drugstore, a bakery, a shop of rugs, a funeral parlor, but nowhere was there a sign of a hardware store.

I had never before heard pure applause in a ballpark. No calling, no whistling, just an ocean of handclaps, minute after minute, burst after burst, crowding and running together.

The people of the State of New York cannot allow any individuals within her borders to go unfed, unclothed, or unsheltered.

The Position of Not

"The preferred position for the negator not is after the first word of the auxiliary or after a copula, in a main clause. Under various circumstances, a negator that should properly be placed elsewhere is attracted into this position.

. I didn't say [that he lied] (I said nothing)

I said [that he didn't lie] (I said that he told the truth.)

Here the difference in meaning is significant, and the negator n't is likely to be maintained in its proper place. But consider:

I don't think [that he came] (I don't know what he did.)

. I think [that he didn't come] (I think that he stayed away)

هin linguistics, the distinction between positive and negative forms, which may be expressed syntactically ("To be or not to be"), morphologically ("lucky" vs. "unlucky"), or lexically ("strong" vs. "weak").