**SO and Neither**

**SO** is used to show agreement with positive statements.

**SO** + **Auxiliary/Be** + **Subject (pronoun)**

The Auxiliary (or To Be/Have) needs to agree with the verb tense in the original statement.

It is similar to using **TOO** at the end of a sentence.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person A** | **Person B** |  |
| I **am** happy. | So **am** I. | = I am happy too. |
| I**'m** going to Brazil in the summer. | So **am** I. | = I am going to Brazil too. |
| You **look** nice today. | So **do** you. | = You look nice too. |
| Stephanie **has** a new friend. | So **does** Mary. | = Mary has a new one too. |
| We **went** to the concert last night. | So **did** I. | = I went to the concert too. |
| I **would** love a coffee right now. | So **would** I. | = I would love a coffee too. |
| He **will** win a prize. | So **will** I. | = I will win one too. |
| They **have finished** their homework. | So **have** I. | = I have finished too. |
| I **can** speak two languages. | So **can** I. | = I can speak two too. |
| He **should** study more. | So **should** I. | = I should study more too. |
| We **could** see the mountains. | So **could** we. | = We could see them too. |
| My brother **had eaten** too much. | So **had** I. | = I had eaten too much too. |
|  |  |  |

Sometimes you can use **So + Auxiliary + Subject** as a continuation of the first part of the sentence.

* John can sing well and so can his brother.  
  (= John can sing well and his brother can sing well too)

**NEITHER**

**Neither** is used to show agreement with negative statements.

**Neither** + **Auxiliary** + **Subject (pronoun)**

The Auxiliary needs to agree with the verb tense in the original statement.

It is similar to using **either** at the end of a sentence, although **Neither** is more commonly used, especially in spoken English.

A: I don't understand Spanish.  
B: Neither do I. (= I don't understand Spanish either.)

A: I cannot swim.  
B: Neither can I. (= I can't swim either.)

Sometimes people respond  **Me Neither** instead of *Neither + Auxiliary + Subject* though this is very informal spoken English.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Person A** | **Person B** |  |
| I **am not** hungry. | Neither **am** I. | = I'm not hungry **either**. |
| I**'m not** going to quit. | Neither **am** I. | = I'm not going to quit **either**. |
| They **don't speak** French. | Neither **do** I. | = I don't speak French **either**. |
| Stephanie **doesn't eat** meat. | Neither **does** Mary. | = Mary doesn't eat meat **either**. |
| Mary **didn't go** to the party. | Neither **did** I. | = I didn't go **either**. |
| I **wouldn't**like to do his job. | Neither **would** I. | = I wouldn't like to do it **either**. |
| He **won't** stop talking. | Neither **will** you. | = You won't stop **either**. |
| You **haven't finished** your meal. | Neither **have** you. | = You haven't finished **either**. |
| I **can't** reach the top shelf. | Neither **can** I. | = I can't reach it **either**. |
| You **shouldn't** talk in the movie. | Neither **should** you. | = You shouldn't talk **either**. |
| We **couldn't** hear him. | Neither **could** we. | = We couldn't hear him **either**. |
| I **hadn't seen** her before. | Neither **had** I. | = I hadn't seen her before **either**. |

**Because and so**

**Because** is a subordinating conjunction. It shows the cause.**So** is a coordinating conjunction. It shows the effect.

We can combine two clauses using because and so.

Study the example given below.

Susie didn’t attend the party. She was not invited.

We can combine these two clauses in two different ways.

→Susie didn’t attend the party **because** she was not invited.  
Susie was not invited, **so** she did not attend the party.

→I could not talk to him **because** he was busy.

He was busy **so** I could not talk to him.→He was ill ,**so** he did not attend school for a week.He did not attend school for a week **because** he was ill.

**Be able to / be allowed to / can**

**When the auxiliary *can* is not grammatically possible,** we often use **to be able to** or **to be allowed to** instead of *can*. We can only form the Past of *can (could)*. To put *can* into other tenses we need the phrases **to be able to** or **to be allowed to**.

| **Tense** | **Modal** | **Form** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Simple Present | I **can** **play** football. | I **am able to** **play** football. |
| I **am allowed to** **play** football. |
| Simple Past | I **could** **play** football. | I **was able to** **play** football. |
| I **was allowed to** **play** football. |
| Future | not possible | I **will be able to** **play** football. |
| I **will be allowed to** **play** football. |

The auxiliary **can** is not grammatically possible in other tenses, too.

Here are some more examples:

* Present Perfect → I **have been able to play** football.
* Past Perfect → I **had been able to play** football.
* going to-future → I **am going to be able to play** football.

**Exercise 1**

* **1 - I don't like mushrooms.**

Neither do I  
Neither don't I  
So do I

* **2 - I love going to the cinema.**

So do I  
So am I  
I can

* **3 - I can't swim.**

I can  
Neither do I  
Neither can I

* **4 - I haven't got a dog**

So have I  
Neither have I  
I have **5 - I enjoyed the concert.**  
So have I  
Neither did I  
So did I **6 - I want to go shopping.**  
So do I  
I am  
So have I  
**7 - I'm really tired.**  
So am I  
So did I  
So have I  
**8 - I don't agree.**  
So do I  
Neither do I  
Neither did I  
**9 - I wish it was Saturday!**  
Neither do I  
So can I  
So do I  
**10 - I've got 3 sisters.**  
Neither have I  
So have I  
So am I