

## SO / NEITHER + AUXILIARY VERBS

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|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Main theme addressed</b> | In this lesson, you will learn about using "so" or "neither" + auxiliaries.   |
| <b>Key Goals</b>            | <p>Here is an outline of what you will learn today:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meaning of so / neither + auxiliary verbs</li> <li>2. How to correctly form sentences using so / neither + auxiliary verbs</li> </ol> |

### 1. Meaning of So / Neither + Auxiliary Verbs

'So + auxiliary verb' and 'Neither + auxiliary verb' are used to express agreement for yourself made by another person, or express agreement about another person.

'**So + auxiliary verb**' is used express agreement to an **affirmative sentence**.

For Example:

Gareth: "I like football"

David: "So do I"

'**Neither + auxiliary verb**' is used to express agreement to a **negative sentence**.

For Example:

Gareth: "I don't like swimming"

David: "Neither do I"

## 2. How to correctly form sentences using so / neither + auxiliary verbs

You can form sentences correctly with 'so' or 'neither' using the following structure:

**so / neither + auxiliary verb + subject**

In the form above:

'So' or 'neither' are used to express agreement

The auxiliary verb is used to link the sentence to the subject

The subject is the person that the sentence is speaking about.

### **Remember!**

The auxiliary verbs used in these sentences change depending on the original sentence.

The personal pronoun 'you' is only used in a sentence if the original statement is about another person.

For Example:

Gareth: "John loves basketball" David: "So do you!"

Look at the table below to see the different auxiliary verbs and how they are used.

| So or Neither  | Auxiliary Verb<br>(verb tense of<br>original statement) | Subject   | Affirmative<br>Example                                  | Negative<br>Example                           |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>So</b><br>(agreeing with<br>affirmative<br>statement)<br><br>or<br><br><b>Neither</b><br>(agreeing with<br>negative<br>statement) | <b>do</b><br>(present tense)                            | I, you, we, they                                | I love cycling.<br>So do I.                             | I don't like<br>cleaning.<br>Neither do we.   |
|  | <b>does</b><br>(past tense)                             | he/she, name of<br>person                       | I love cycling.<br>So does Miriam.                      | I don't like<br>cleaning.<br>Neither does he. |
|  | <b>did</b><br>(past tense)                              | I, you, he/she,<br>we, they, name<br>of person  | I went cycling.<br>So did he.                           | I didn't wake up.<br>Neither did I.           |
|  | <b>am</b><br>(present tense using<br>verb 'to be')      | I   | I am 25 years old.<br>So am I.                          | I'm not 25 years<br>old.<br>Neither am I.     |
|  | <b>is</b><br>(present tense using<br>verb 'to be')      | he/she/name of<br>person                        | I am 25 years old.<br>So is she.                        | I'm not 25 years<br>old.<br>Neither is he.    |
|  | <b>are</b><br>(present tense using<br>verb 'to be')     | you, we, they                                   | Miriam is from<br>Spain.<br>So are you.                 | John isn't from<br>Spain.<br>Neither are we.  |
|  | <b>was</b><br>(past tense using<br>verb 'to be')        | I, he/she, name<br>of person                    | I was in bed.<br>So was I.                              | I wasn't in bed.<br>Neither was<br>John.      |
|  | <b>were</b><br>(past tense using<br>verb 'to be')       | you, we, they                                   | I was in bed.<br>So were we.                            | I wasn't in bed.<br>Neither were<br>they.     |
| <b>have</b><br>(present perfect and<br>present perfect<br>continuous)  | I, you, we, they  | I've been here for<br>15 minutes.<br>So have I. | I haven't been<br>there for 1 month.<br>Neither have I. |   |

|  | <b>Auxiliary Verb<br/>(verb tense of<br/>original statement)</b>     | <b>Subject</b>                                    | <b>Affirmative<br/>Example</b>                  | <b>Negative<br/>Example</b>                                    |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| <b>So</b><br>(agreeing with<br>affirmative<br>statement)<br><br>or | <b>has</b><br>(present perfect and<br>present perfect<br>continuous) | he/she/name of<br>person                          | I've been here for<br>15 minutes.<br>So has he. | I haven't been<br>there for 1 month.<br>Neither has<br>Miriam. |
|  | <b>can</b><br>(sentences<br>describing skills or<br>ability)         | I, you, he/she/it,<br>we, they, name<br>of person | I can play the<br>piano.<br>So can Gerald.      | I can't play the<br>piano.<br>Neither can she.                 |
| <b>Neither</b><br>(Agreeing with<br>negative<br>statement)         | <b>will</b><br>(future tense)  | I, you, he/she/it,<br>we, they, name<br>of person | I will go home now.<br>So will I.               | I won't go home<br>yet.<br>Neither will I.                     |
|  | <b>would</b><br>(sentences using<br>'would')                         | I, you, he/she/it,<br>we, they, name<br>of person | I would like to try<br>that.<br>So would I.     | I wouldn't like to<br>try that.<br>Neither would I.            |

These auxiliary verbs are all used in other areas of English, so you may already know how to change the auxiliary verb to the correct subject and sentence tense.

Once you feel ready, have a look at the exercise below to practice using 'so' and 'neither'.

**Exercise:**

**Write the correct response to the statements below to agree with them.**

1. I love cycling.

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2. I've been married for 10 years.

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3. John can't find the keys.

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4. She is very tall.

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5. I didn't know her very well.

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6. James doesn't drink coffee.

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7. We have a dog.

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8. I would like to retire early.

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Answers:

1. So do I.
2. So have I.
3. Neither can I.
4. So am I.
5. Neither did I.
6. Neither do I.
7. So do we.
8. So would I.

**Learn More:**

<https://www.elbase.com/notes-170-auxiliary-verbs-so-neither>

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/episode128/languagepoint.shtml>

<https://www.perfect-english-grammar.com/so-too-neither-either.html>