

SO / NEITHER + AUXILIARY VERBS

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

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

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

2. I've been married for 10 years.

3. John can't find the keys.

4. She is very tall.

5. I didn't know her very well.

6. James doesn't drink coffee.

7. We have a dog.

8. I would like to retire early.



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>