Standard English

Double negatives: two 'negative' words in the same sentence. For Standard English to apply one of the negative words must be changed.

I **ain't** got **no** pencils ➡️ I **haven't** got **any** pencils

I **don't** want **none** of that ➡️ I **don't** want **any** of that.

Negative words

- Look at this sentence-
- The boy **did not** have **no** bow.

- It does not make sense because it has two negative words (a word that means no) in it. It should say-
- The boy **did not** have **a** bow.

- Here are the common words we use to demonstrate that something is negative- **no, not, nothing, never, nowhere**

- We also add the letters n't to words to make them negative, like **doesn't**.

Task 1

- Copy these sentences into your books. Underline the negative words in each of these incorrectly written sentences. Next, write in the alternatives.

- There isn't no point in going out because it's raining.
- The referee said that he didn't want no trouble.
- I don't belong to no swimming club.
- The crocodile hasn't got no whiskers.
- The toy robot didn't do nothing when it was wound up.

Task 2

- Choose the correct word from the pair given to complete the sentence.

- 1. **nothing / anything**
- John did not tell his father ------ about the accident.
- John told his father ------ about the accident.

- 2. **no / any**
- There isn't ----- cake left.
- There is ----- cake left.

- 3. **never / ever**
- Don't you ----- get tired of knitting?
- Do you ---- get tired of knitting?

Standard English

These are not written in Standard English, how should they be written?

May I **lend** your scissors Ben?
May I **borrow** your scissors Ben?

I should **of** taken more care with the hammer.

I should **have** taken more care with the hammer.

Copy these into your books and write the correct version underneath.

1. I'd like one of **them** cakes.

2. My uncle gave me this book **whenever** I was born.

3. It was thunder **what** we heard.

4. Mum **learned** me to ride a bike.

5. He **never**!

6. It's **right** hot!

Try and think of some of your own. Write the non-standard and standard versions.