

**Practice1** Choose the most suitable words underlined. Circle the correct version.

1. Jim promised that he would never/never would he tell anyone else.
2. Not until it was too late I remembered/did I remember to call Susan.
3. Hardly had we settled down in our seats than/when the lights went out.
4. Only after checking three times I was / was I certain of the answer.
5. At no time I was aware / was I aware of anything out of the usual.
6. Only Catherine and Sally passed / did they pass the final examination.
7. So the waves were high / So high were the waves that swimming was dangerous.
8. Only when Pete has arrived / has Pete arrived can we begin the programme.
9. No sooner had it stopped raining than/when the sun came out.

**Practice2** Rewrite each sentence, starting as shown, so that the meaning stays the same.

1 I had no sooner gone to bed than someone rang my doorbell.  
No sooner **had I gone to bed than someone rang my bell.**

2 I have seldom stayed in a worse hotel.  
Seldom **have I stayed in a worse hotel.**

3 I have never heard such nonsense.  
Never **have I heard such nonsense.**

4 I realized only then that I had lost my keys.  
Only then **did I realize that I had lost my keys.**

5 The economic situation has rarely been worse.  
Rarely **has the economic situation been worse.**

6 The manager not once offered us an apology.  
Not once **did the manager offer us an apology.**

7 You should not send money to us under any circumstances.  
Under no circumstances **should you send money to us.**

8 I understood *Hamlet* only after seeing it on the stage.  
Only after seeing it on the stage **did I understand *Hamlet*.**

9 The embassy staff little realized that Ted was a secret agent.  
Little **did the embassy staff realize that Ted was a secret agent.**

**Practice3** Rewrite each sentence, starting as shown, so that the meaning stays the same.

1 It was only when the office phoned me that I found out about the meeting.

Not until **the office phoned me did I find out about the meeting.**

2 The facts were not all made public until later.  
Only **later were the facts all made public.**

3 The response to our appeal was so great that we had to take on more staff.  
Such **was the response to our appeal that we had to take on more staff.**

4 Harry broke his leg, and also injured his shoulder.  
Not only **did Harry break his leg, but he also injured his shoulder.**

5 The police didn't at all suspect that the judge was the murderer.  
Little **did the police suspect that the judge was the murderer.**

6 The bus driver cannot be blamed for the accident in any way.  
In no way can the bus driver be blamed for the accident.

7 The snowfall was so heavy that all trains had to be cancelled.  
So **heavy was the snowfall that all trains had to be cancelled.**

**2 Rewrite the sentences using the opening expressions given.**

**1** A change in employment law has rarely been greeted with so much enthusiasm.  
Rarely *has a change in employment been greeted with so much enthusiasm.*

**2** Employers should never discriminate against job applicants on the grounds of creed, ethnicity or gender.

On no account *should employers discriminate against job applicants on the grounds of creed, ethnicity or gender.*

**3** She had just been promoted to head of department when the company was put into administration.  
Hardly *had she been promoted to the head of department when the company was put into administration.*

**4** He had to answer countless abusive phone calls. In addition, he worked alternate weekends.  
Not only *did she have to answer countless abusive phone calls, but he also worked alternate weekends.*

**5** This is the first time they have shown such concern for the safety of their staff.  
Never before *have they shown concern for the safety of their staff.*

**6** We can only shortlist candidates after we've gone through all the applications.  
Only after *we've gone through all the applications can we shortlist candidates.*

**7** We may not leave the premises without clocking off.  
Under no circumstances *may we leave the premises without clocking off.*

**8** Work is more stressful in call centres than anywhere else.  
Nowhere *is work more stressful than in call centres.*

**9** He was dismissed immediately after complaining about the working conditions.  
No sooner *had he complained about the working conditions than was he dismissed.*

**10** Staff were not allowed to make personal phone calls from the office. They were not allowed to use the Internet either.

Staff were not allowed to make personal phone calls from the office. Neither *were they allowed to use the Internet.*

