



HOW TO USE EITHER AND NEITHER

@MARIANGGLISHLESSONS ✨

WHAT DOES EITHER MEAN?

Either is generally used as a determiner. It means 'one or the other' as in the following sentence.

Please come either on Tuesday or Wednesday.

In this sentence, the word either is used as a determiner and in the sense of 'one or the other'. Sometimes either is used as a pronoun, alone or with the preposition of as in the following sentences.

i would like to have either.
Has either of his brothers called on you?

In both sentences, either is used as a pronoun. In the first it is used 'alone' and in the second it is used with the preposition of.

Sometimes either is also used in the sense of "too" or "also" as in the sentence given below:

"I can't either" if somebody told you "I can't climb" in that case will be the answer. (meaning any of you can't climb)

WHAT DOES NEITHER MEAN?

The word neither is used before a singular noun when there is not article. You should remember that the verb used is singular whenever the word neither is employed, look at this examples:

Neither book contains the answer.
Neither car is expensive.

In both the sentences given above, you can see the word neither is used with a singular noun assisted by the verb in the singular form too. Neither is often used in combination with nor as in the sentence given below:

Neither Anna nor Helen was at home when I went.

It is interesting to note that you will get the sence of the absence of both people, namely, Anna and Helen, by the usage of neither followed by nor.

EITHER

Either is generally used as a determiner. It means
'one or the other'

NEITHER

Neither is used before a singular noun when there is
no article.

@MARIAENGLISHLESSONS

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EITHER AND NEITHER?

Sometimes either is used as a pronoun, alone or with the preposition of.

Sometimes either is used in the sense of “too” or “also”.

On the other hand, neither is used before a singular noun when there is no article.

When neither is used in a sentence, a singular verb is used as well as a singular noun.

Neither is often used in combination with nor.

@MARIACGLISHLESSONS

EITHER

PRONOUN

I haven't met either of your sons.

DETERMINER

You can use either door.

ADVERB

Tom: I don't like snakes.

Ben: I don't like them either.

CONJUNCTION

Call me either at home or at my office.

NEITHER

PRONOUN

Neither of these jackets is mine.

DETERMINER

Neither report has been finished.

ADVERB

Tom: I don't like snakes.

Ben: Neither do I.

CONJUNCTION

Neither Anna nor Helen got a promotion.