

UNIT 20

Sentences

Contractions which end **n't** and the words **no**, **nothing**, **never** and **nowhere** are **negative** words.

By using these **negative** words, we can change the meaning of a sentence.



He has an ice-cream.



He **doesn't** have an ice-cream.

If there are **two negatives** in one sentence, they cancel each other out and the meaning becomes **positive**.

I **don't** have **no** money.

two negatives = positive = I do have some money.

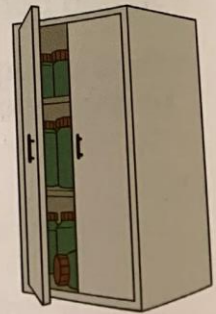
The correct sentence would be:

I **don't** have **any** money.

Focus

Add a *negative word* to each sentence to make it mean the *opposite*.

- 1 I _____ have an apple for lunch.
- 2 She has _____ time to tidy her room.
- 3 The children do _____ want to go to the park.
- 4 There is _____ space in the cupboard.
- 5 Greg _____ goes to the library on Saturday.
- 6 I _____ lift this heavy box.



Practice

A Write the *contractions* of these *negative words*.

- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| 1 cannot | 2 will not | 3 shall not |
| 4 must not | 5 have not | 6 should not |
| 7 would not | 8 does not | 9 do not |
| 10 is not | 11 could not | 12 had not |

B Copy the sentences below.

Underline the *negative words*.

Write the sentences so they have the *opposite* meaning.

- 1 The thief said he knew nothing about the burglary.
- 2 He did not have a ticket to get in.
- 3 The boys had nowhere to go.
- 4 "I mustn't feed the cat," said Dad.



Extension

All of these sentences have *two negative words* so they do not mean what the writer intended.

Write each one again so that it means what the writer intended.

- 1 I wanted to win the race but I didn't have no luck.
- 2 Pam didn't want to go nowhere.
- 3 I mustn't throw nothing away.
- 4 Mum will not get no bus today.
- 5 Tom didn't score no goals in the match.
- 6 I never go nowhere.



Find the two negative words first.