



Either / Neither / Both: Both of, Either of and Neither of

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- ___ of the two restaurants has good reviews. Let's find somewhere else to eat.
a) Both
b) Neither
c) Either
d) Each
- I've spoken to ___ of them, and they both agree with the plan.
a) neither
b) either
c) every
d) both
- ___ of the answers is correct. Please try again.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
- You can borrow ___ of these books — just take the one you want.
a) neither
b) both
c) either
d) every
- I've been to ___ of those countries — Spain in 2019 and Italy in 2020.
a) neither
b) both
c) either
d) all
- ___ of us wants to go first. We're both too nervous, so you can start.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
- We're moving to a new house, and ___ of our children are excited about it.
a) neither
b) either
c) every
d) both
- I can see two taxis. ___ of them is free — they both have passengers.
a) Both
b) Either
c) Neither
d) Each
- My sister and I are ___ studying medicine at university.
a) either
b) both
c) neither
d) all
- ___ of the two options sounds good to me. I'm happy with whatever you decide.
a) Either
b) Neither
c) Both
d) All
- I know ___ of those girls — they live on my street.
a) either
b) neither
c) every
d) both

12. Could ___ of you help me carry this box? I just need one person.
a) neither
b) both
c) either
d) every
13. The twins have ___ finished their homework already.
a) either
b) both
c) neither
d) every
14. ___ of the chairs is comfortable — they're both very hard.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
15. My brothers can ___ speak three languages fluently.
a) either
b) neither
c) every
d) both
16. Do you want the window seat or the aisle seat? — ___ of them is fine. I don't have a preference.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) All
17. ___ of us really understood the lecture. We were both confused.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
18. My grandparents are ___ over eighty years old.
a) either
b) both
c) neither
d) every
19. We can go to ___ of the two parks — whichever is closer.
a) neither
b) both
c) every
d) either
20. We ___ enjoy going to the cinema at the weekend.
a) either
b) every
c) both
d) neither



Answers

1. b) Neither
2. d) both
3. a) Neither
4. c) either
5. b) both
6. a) Neither
7. d) both
8. c) Neither
9. b) both
10. a) Either
11. d) both
12. c) either
13. b) both
14. a) Neither
15. d) both
16. c) Either
17. a) Neither
18. b) both
19. d) either
20. c) both



Explanations

1. “Neither” (b)

'Neither of' + plural noun + singular verb ('has') in formal English. 'Let's find somewhere else' confirms that neither restaurant is good. 'Both of' would need the plural verb 'have'.

2. “both” (d)

'Both of them' means the two people together. 'They both agree' confirms a positive meaning. 'Neither of them' would contradict 'they both agree'.

3. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of' + plural noun + singular verb ('is') in formal English. 'Please try again' tells us neither answer is right. 'Both of the answers' would need the plural verb 'are'.

4. “either” (c)

'Either of' means one or the other. 'Just take the one you want' confirms the speaker is offering a choice of one book, not both.

5. “both” (b)

'Both of those countries' means the speaker visited the two countries. The dates for each visit confirm that both were visited.

6. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of us' + singular verb 'wants' (formal). 'We're both too nervous' explains why neither person wants to go first.

7. “both” (d)

'Both of our children are excited' — 'both of' + possessive + plural noun + plural verb. The positive context ('excited') confirms 'both', not 'neither'.

8. “Neither” (c)

'Neither of them is free' — 'neither of' + pronoun + singular verb. 'They both have passengers' explains why neither taxi is available.

9. “both” (b)

Mid-position 'both' comes after 'be' verbs: 'are both studying'. The speaker and their sister (= two people) are both studying the same subject.

10. “Either” (a)

'Either of' + plural noun + singular verb ('sounds'). 'I'm happy with whatever' means either option is acceptable. 'Both of' would need the plural verb 'sound'.

11. “both” (d)

'Both of those girls' — the speaker knows the two girls. 'They live on my street' explains how the speaker knows them both.

12. “either” (c)

'Either of you' means one or the other. 'I just need one person' confirms the speaker is asking one of two people, not both.

13. “both” (b)

Mid-position 'both' comes after auxiliary verbs: 'have both finished'. The twins (= two children) have already completed their work. 'Already' reinforces the positive meaning.

14. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of the chairs is comfortable' — 'neither of' + singular verb. 'They're both very hard' explains why neither chair is comfortable.

15. “both” (d)

Mid-position 'both' comes after modal verbs: 'can both speak'. The speaker has two brothers and they are both trilingual.

16. “Either” (c)

'Either of them is fine' — 'either of' + singular verb. 'I don't have a preference' means one or the other is acceptable. 'Both of them' would need 'are fine'.

17. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of us' means not one and not the other. 'We were both confused' confirms that neither person understood the lecture.

18. “both” (b)

Mid-position 'both' comes after 'be' verbs: 'are both over eighty'. The speaker's two grandparents are both in their eighties.

19. “either” (d)

'Either of the two parks' means one or the other. 'Whichever is closer' confirms the speaker wants to choose one park, not visit both.

20. “both” (c)

Mid-position 'both' comes before main verbs: 'We both enjoy'. The two people share the same hobby of going to the cinema.