



Either / Neither / Both: Both, Either and Neither: Mixed Practice

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. ___ of us had an umbrella, so we both got wet.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
2. Either Tom ___ his wife will pick you up from the station.
a) and
b) nor
c) or
d) but
3. I've tried on two coats and ___ look good on me. I can't decide!
a) neither
b) both
c) either
d) every
4. ___ my brother nor I am good at cooking.
a) Both
b) Either
c) Each
d) Neither
5. ___ of the candidates was suitable for the job, so we didn't hire anyone.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
6. My wife and I are ___ looking forward to the weekend.
a) either
b) neither
c) both
d) every
7. The children can play in ___ the garden or the park.
a) neither
b) either
c) both
d) every
8. Neither my phone ___ my laptop had enough battery.
a) and
b) but
c) or
d) nor
9. ___ parents support their children's decision to study abroad.
a) Both
b) Either
c) Neither
d) Every
10. I'm happy with ___ option. Just choose for me.
a) both
b) neither
c) either
d) every
11. She has been to ___ Australia and New Zealand.
a) either
b) both
c) neither
d) all

12. Either you clean your room ____ you can't go out tonight.
a) and
b) nor
c) but
d) or
13. ____ answer is correct. You need to think more carefully.
a) Neither
b) Both
c) Either
d) Each
14. She's ____ intelligent and hard-working.
a) either
b) neither
c) both
d) nor
15. ____ of the roads leads to the city centre. Take whichever is quieter.
a) Neither
b) Either
c) Both
d) All
16. The twins are ____ very talented musicians.
a) neither
b) either
c) every
d) both
17. Neither the hotel ____ the beach was as good as we expected.
a) nor
b) or
c) and
d) but
18. I've seen ____ films, and I think the first one is much better.
a) either
b) neither
c) both
d) every
19. Shall we eat at the Italian place or the Thai place? — ____ is fine with me. You decide.
a) Neither
b) Either
c) Both
d) All
20. She ____ called nor texted to say she would be late.
a) either
b) both
c) not
d) neither



Answers

1. a) Neither
2. c) or
3. b) both
4. d) Neither
5. a) Neither
6. c) both
7. b) either
8. d) nor
9. a) Both
10. c) either
11. b) both
12. d) or
13. a) Neither
14. c) both
15. b) Either
16. d) both
17. a) nor
18. c) both
19. b) Either
20. d) neither



Explanations

1. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of us' means not one and not the other. 'We both got wet' confirms that neither person had an umbrella to stay dry.

2. “or” (c)

'Either...or' is a fixed pair meaning one or the other. Either Tom will come, or his wife will come — one of them.

3. “both” (b)

'Both' as a pronoun means 'the two of them'. Both coats look good, which is why the speaker can't decide. 'Both' + plural verb ('look').

4. “Neither” (d)

'Neither...nor' means not one and not the other. The verb 'am' agrees with the nearest subject 'I'. Neither the brother nor the speaker can cook well.

5. “Neither” (a)

'Neither of' + singular verb ('was'). 'We didn't hire anyone' confirms that neither candidate was good enough.

6. “both” (c)

Mid-position 'both' comes after 'be' verbs: 'are both looking forward'. 'My wife and I' = two people, so 'both' is correct.

7. “either” (b)

'Either...or' presents two choices. The children can choose one place to play — the garden or the park.

8. “nor” (d)

'Neither...nor' is a fixed pair. The phone didn't have enough battery, and the laptop didn't have enough battery either.

9. “Both” (a)

'Both parents' + plural verb ('support'). The two parents are in agreement — they both support the decision.

10. “either” (c)

'Either option' means one or the other — it doesn't matter which. 'Just choose for me' shows the speaker has no preference.

11. “both” (b)

'Both...and' links two places together. The speaker has visited Australia and New Zealand — both countries.

12. “or” (d)

'Either...or' presents two alternatives. Clean your room, or face the consequence of not going out. It's a choice.

13. “Neither” (a)

'Neither answer' + singular verb. 'You need to think more carefully' tells the student that neither of their two answers is right.

14. “both” (c)

'Both...and' links two positive adjectives. She is intelligent and hard-working — she has both qualities.

15. “Either” (b)

'Either of the roads' + singular verb ('leads'). 'Take whichever is quieter' means both roads go to the centre, so either one works. 'Both of' would need the plural verb 'lead'.

16. “both” (d)

Mid-position 'both' comes after 'be' verbs: 'are both very talented'. The twins (= two people) share the same talent.

17. “nor” (a)

'Neither...nor' is a fixed pair. The hotel was disappointing, and the beach was disappointing too. 'Neither' is always followed by 'nor'.

18. “both” (c)

'Both films' means the speaker watched the two films. 'I think the first one is much better' shows the speaker is comparing them after seeing both.

19. “Either” (b)

'Either is fine' means one or the other — the speaker has no preference between the two restaurants. 'You decide' confirms this. 'Both' would need the plural verb 'are'.

20. “neither” (d)

'Neither...nor' means not one action and not the other. She didn't call and she didn't text. 'Neither' is always followed by 'nor'.