



Indefinite Pronouns: Any vs No vs None, Double Negatives and Mixed Practice

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- There were ___ tickets left when we arrived. The concert was sold out.
a) any
b) no
c) none
d) some
- How many students passed the exam? ___. They all failed.
a) No
b) Nobody
c) Nothing
d) None
- She didn't invite ___ to her birthday party. She wanted a quiet evening.
a) no one
b) someone
c) anyone
d) everyone
- I've looked everywhere, but ___ of my friends have seen my dog.
a) none
b) no
c) any
d) some
- There was ___ sugar in the house, so I couldn't bake the cake.
a) any
b) none
c) not
d) no
- ___ told him the truth, so he still doesn't know what happened.
a) Anybody
b) Nobody
c) Somebody
d) Everybody
- We didn't have ___ problems with the new software.
a) any
b) no
c) some
d) none
- I asked all my colleagues, but ___ of them could help me.
a) no
b) any
c) none
d) nothing
- Has ___ seen my car keys? I can't find them.
a) anyone
b) no one
c) someone
d) everyone
- There is ___ you can do to change his mind. He's already decided.
a) anything
b) everything
c) nothing
d) something

11. Are there ___ questions before we finish?
a) some
b) any
c) no
d) none
12. He has ___ money and ___ friends. He needs help.
a) any ... any
b) none ... none
c) not ... not
d) no ... no
13. I've read every page, but I understood ____.
a) anything
b) everything
c) nothing
d) something
14. How much milk is left? ___ at all. We need to buy more.
a) None
b) No
c) Nothing
d) Any
15. ___ in this world is perfect. We all make mistakes.
a) Somebody
b) Anybody
c) Everybody
d) Nobody
16. She went to the meeting, but there were ___ important people there.
a) any
b) no
c) none
d) not
17. I called the office, but ___ answered the phone.
a) anybody
b) somebody
c) everybody
d) nobody
18. A: Do you have any brothers or sisters? B: No, I have ____.
a) no
b) none
c) any
d) nothing
19. Let's go ___ different this weekend. I'm tired of the same places.
a) somewhere
b) anywhere
c) everywhere
d) nowhere
20. ___ of the answers on his test were correct. He got zero marks.
a) No
b) Any
c) None
d) Nothing



Answers

1. b) no
2. d) None
3. c) anyone
4. a) none
5. d) no
6. b) Nobody
7. a) any
8. c) none
9. a) anyone
10. c) nothing
11. b) any
12. d) no ... no
13. c) nothing
14. a) None
15. d) Nobody
16. b) no
17. d) nobody
18. b) none
19. a) somewhere
20. c) None



Explanations

1. “no” (b)

'No' is a determiner and must be followed by a noun: 'no tickets'. 'None' is a pronoun that stands alone without a noun. Here we need 'no' because it comes before the noun 'tickets'.

2. “None” (d)

'None' is a pronoun that stands alone — it replaces 'no students' without repeating the noun. 'No' is a determiner and needs a noun after it, so it cannot be used alone here.

3. “anyone” (c)

The sentence already has 'didn't' (negative), so we use 'anyone' to avoid a double negative. 'She didn't invite anyone' = 'She invited no one.'

4. “none” (a)

'None' is a pronoun used with 'of' — 'none of my friends'. We cannot say 'no of my friends'. When followed by 'of + noun/pronoun', always use 'none'.

5. “no” (d)

'No' is used as a determiner before the noun 'sugar'. The sentence means 'There wasn't any sugar'. The verb 'was' is affirmative — 'no' provides the negation. The consequence ('couldn't bake the cake') confirms the absence of sugar.

6. “Nobody” (b)

'Nobody' is used with an affirmative verb ('told') to express negation. The result clause ('he still doesn't know') confirms that no person told him.

7. “any” (a)

The sentence already has 'didn't' (negative), so we use 'any' before the noun 'problems'. Using 'no' here would create a double negative: 'didn't have no problems' is incorrect in standard English.

8. “none” (c)

'None of them' is the correct structure. 'None' is used as a pronoun with 'of + pronoun/noun'. We cannot say 'no of them'.

9. “anyone” (a)

This is a genuine question — the speaker doesn't know if somebody has seen the keys — so we use the any-compound 'anyone'. The present perfect 'Has ... seen' asks about an experience up to now.

10. “nothing” (c)

'Nothing' is used with the affirmative verb 'is' to express negation. 'There is nothing you can do' means it is impossible to change his mind.

11. “any” (b)

This is a genuine question where the speaker doesn't assume questions exist, so 'any' is used as a determiner before the noun 'questions'.

12. “no ... no” (d)

'No' is used as a determiner before the nouns 'money' and 'friends'. The verb 'has' is affirmative, and 'no' provides the negation. 'None' cannot be used here because it cannot precede a noun directly.

13. “nothing” (c)

The verb 'understood' is affirmative (no 'didn't'), and the context (introduced by 'but') signals negation, so we use 'nothing'. 'I understood nothing' = 'I didn't understand anything.'

14. “None” (a)

'None' stands alone as a pronoun answering 'How much milk?' — it replaces 'no milk'. 'No' requires a noun after it and cannot stand alone.

15. “Nobody” (d)

'Nobody' with the affirmative verb 'is' expresses that perfection applies to zero people. The second sentence reinforces this universal truth.

16. “no” (b)

'No' is a determiner before the noun phrase 'important people'. The verb 'were' is affirmative, and 'no' provides the negation.

17. “nobody” (d)

The verb 'answered' is affirmative (no 'didn't'), so we use 'nobody' to express that zero people picked up. 'But' signals the contrasting result.

18. “none” (b)

'None' stands alone as a pronoun, replacing 'no brothers or sisters'. It answers a 'how many' type question. We cannot say 'I have no' at the end of a sentence without a noun.

19. “somewhere” (a)

This is an affirmative suggestion using 'Let's...', so we use the some- compound 'somewhere'. The adjective 'different' follows the pronoun: 'somewhere different'.

20. “None” (c)

'None of the answers' is the correct structure — 'none' is a pronoun used with 'of + noun phrase'. 'No' is a determiner and cannot be followed by 'of'. The context ('zero marks') confirms total absence.