Inversion

Name: Date:

What is an inverted conditional?

Although conditional clauses are often called if-clauses, they don't always include the word if! In more formal situations, we use a technique called inversion where we reverse the order of the subject and the verb. These clauses are known as inverted conditionals or sometimes reduced conditionals.

Inverted conditionals contain inversion instead of if. Inversion means that we reverse the order of the verb and the subject. This technique is typically seen in more formal contexts.

To invert sentences in the first conditional, we place the auxiliary should before the subject, followed by the infinitive of the main verb: should + subject + infinitive.

In second conditionals, inversion is used to rewrite if-clauses that contain the verb be. Use the structure were + subject.

To invert third conditional if-clauses, use the structure had + subject + past participle.

Bring the words into the right order.

_____

she, finish, race,, she, Not only, the, did, won., also

_____

did, coming., what, know, Little, was, they

_____

went, the, when, started,, had, power, out., movie, the, Hardly

_____

had, Never, a, they, such, seen, before, sunset., beautiful

_____

do, such, to, see, amazing, Seldom, we, animals., get

Inversion

Name: Date:

Choose the sentence with inversion.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Never had Billy seen such a big dog.   ○ Billy had never seen such a big dog.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Rarely does she eat ice cream on cold days.   ○ She rarely eats ice cream on cold days.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ They had barely started the game when it began to rain.
○ Barely had they started the game when it began to rain.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Seldom do I read books before bedtime.   ○ I seldom read books before bedtime.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Hardly ever do we go to the cinema on weekdays.
○ We hardly ever go to the cinema on weekdays.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ No sooner had she opened the book than she fell asleep.
○ She had no sooner opened the book than she fell asleep.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Rarely do I eat sweets after dinner.   ○ I rarely eat sweets after dinner.

Choose the sentence in inversion.

○ Just had he finished his homework when his friends called him to play.
○ He had just finished his homework when his friends called him to play.