

Nobody and anybody ★★☆☆

(★ = Basic ★★ = Intermediate ★★★ = Advanced)

Grammar Bite (read this)

For definitions of words in CAPITALS,
go to grammarbites.co.uk/definitions

Worksheet (do this)

1 **Nobody** is negative: "not one person"
We usually use it as the SUBJECT



Nobody came to see me when I was ill!

2 **Not...anybody** is negative: "not one person" (= "nobody")
We usually use it as the OBJECT, or after **if**.



**This book won't please anybody
I doubt if anybody will want to read this book.**

The negative can be **not, never** etc, or a negative verb like **doubt** or **wonder**

Nobody = no-one
Anybody = anyone

For positive **anybody** (= an unlimited number of people), see Grammar Bite No. 92.

Fill each blank with *anybody* or *nobody*:

- 1 I'm not pleased; _____ wants to help me!
- 2 I haven't spoken to _____ all day.
- 3 I have never heard of _____ with 1.7 children!
- 4 _____ wants to buy this product, it's a disaster!
- 5 She never lets _____ help her
- 6 I don't know if _____ is coming today.
- 7 Oh dear! I'm afraid _____ agrees with me!
- 8 _____ wants to live in a dictatorship.
- 9 I wonder whether _____ will want to buy this picture.
- 10 Who likes this? _____ ! Not one person!

Note

We mostly use **nobody** as a subject:
Nobody came.

We mostly use **not...anybody** as an object:
I didn't see anybody.

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¹For DEFINITIONS, go to www.grammarbites.co.uk/definitions