## NEGATIVE QUESTIONS

An English-Zone.Com Worksheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTION WORD</th>
<th>VERB 1</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>VERB 2</th>
<th>COMPLEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why</td>
<td>didn’t</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>come</td>
<td>to class yesterday?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aren’t</td>
<td>they</td>
<td>study</td>
<td>come</td>
<td>at the library today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can’t</td>
<td>Sara</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>to the party?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Example A:

A: I didn’t eat lunch earlier this afternoon.
B: Why not? Didn’t you have enough time?
A: No, I didn’t. I was too busy on the phone.

### Example B:

A: I can’t come to the party tomorrow night.
B: Why not? Why can’t you come to the party?
A: Because I already have plans.

### Exercise A. MATCHING: Match the sentences to the negative questions.

1. I don’t like to eat steak. | A. Really? Won’t you make a little bit of time for me?
2. Susan isn’t going to graduate this year. | B. Why not? Can’t you swim?
3. I didn’t go in the water at the beach. | C. Really? Don’t you like our California weather?
4. This hot weather is really too much! | D. Why not? Didn’t she pass her chemistry exam?
5. I think that guy is famous... | E. Didn’t we just drive by here a few minutes ago?
6. This hotel looks really familiar. | F. Why not? Don’t you like beef?
7. I’m sorry, but I’m too busy. | G. Isn’t he that actor from Titanic?
8. I saw that same sign 10 minutes ago! | H. Didn’t we stay here once before?

### Exercise B. CONVERSATIONS: Make negative questions in the conversations below:

1. A: I don’t like to eat pizza.
   B: Why not? ________________________________________________________________
   A: _______________________________________________________________________

2. A: Are you ready for the test tomorrow?
   B: No, I’m not
   A: Why not? Why_____________________________________________________________
   B: ________________________________________________________________________

3. A: That vocabulary exercise looks very familiar.
   B: ________________________________________________________________
   A: I think you’re right. We did do it last week!

4. A: I won’t be in class tomorrow.
   B: Why not? Why_____________________________________________________________
   A: Because_________________________________________________________________

5. A: I don’t like broccoli, cauliflower, bell peppers, or squash!
   B: Really? ________________________________________________________________
   A: Yes, of course I do. I like a few vegetables, just not many.

6. A: Lee-Anne got lost on her way to the job interview yesterday.
   B: ________________________________________________________________
   A: I guess not. She should buy a map and keep it in her car.

7. A: Jason hasn’t found a job yet.
   B: Why not? Why_____________________________________________________________
   A: Because_________________________________________________________________

8. A: John really wants to have a pet, but he’s allergic to cats and dogs.
   B: ________________________________________________________________
   A: Yes, I suppose he could get a bird or a fish.

---

http://English-Zone.Com - the BEST English-learning site on the ‘Net. Learn English online, print class materials, play games, and more!

All English-Zone.Com materials © Kaye Mastin Mallory - Permission is granted to print this page for personal or class use only.
## NEGATIVE QUESTIONS

**An English-Zone.Com Worksheet**

**-ANSWER KEY-**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>QUESTION WORD</th>
<th>VERB 1</th>
<th>SUBJECT</th>
<th>VERB 2</th>
<th>COMPLEMENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Why</td>
<td>didn’t</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>come</td>
<td>to class yesterday?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Why</td>
<td>Aren’t</td>
<td>they</td>
<td>studying</td>
<td>at the library today?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>can’t</td>
<td>Sara</td>
<td>come</td>
<td>to the party?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Example A:**

A: I didn’t eat lunch earlier this afternoon.
B: Why not? Didn’t you have enough time?
A: No, I didn’t. I was too busy on the phone.

**Example B:**

A: I can’t come to the party tomorrow night.
B: Why not? Why can’t you come to the party?
A: Because I already have plans.

### Exercise A. MATCHING: Match the sentences to the negative questions.

| _f_ 1. I don’t like to eat steak. | A. Really? Won’t you make a little bit of time for me? |
| _d_ 2. Susan isn’t going to graduate this year. | B. Why not? Can’t you swim? |
| _b_ 3. I didn’t go in the water at the beach. | C. Really? Don’t you like our California weather? |
| _c_ 4. This hot weather is really too much! | D. Why not? Didn’t she pass her chemistry exam? |
| _g_ 5. I think that guy is famous… | E. Didn’t we just drive by here a few minutes ago? |
| _h_ 6. This hotel looks really familiar. | F. Why not? Don’t you like beef? |
| _a_ 7. I’m sorry, but I’m too busy. | G. Isn’t he that actor from *Titanic*? |
| _e_ 8. I saw that same sign 10 minutes ago! | H. Didn’t we stay here once before? |

### Exercise B. CONVERSATIONS: Make negative questions in the conversations below:

1. A: I don’t like to eat pizza.
   B: Why not? Why don’t you like pizza? / Don’t you like pepperoni? / etc.
   _______________________________________________________________________
   A: ____________________________

2. A: Are you ready for the test tomorrow?
   B: No, I’m not
   A: Why not? Why aren’t you ready for the test? / Why didn’t you study? / Why didn’t you get help?
   B: ______________________________________________________________________

3. A: That vocabulary exercise looks very familiar.
   B: Didn’t we do the same exercise last week? / Didn’t we do this before? / etc.
   A: I think you’re right. We did do it last week!

4. A: I won’t be in class tomorrow.
   B: Why not? Why won’t you be here? / Why aren’t you coming? / etc.
   A: Because

5. A: I don’t like broccoli, cauliflower, bell peppers, or squash!
   B: Really? Don’t you like vegetables? / Don’t you eat vegies? / etc.
   A: Yes, of course I do. I like a few vegetables, just not many.

6. A: Lee-Anne got lost on her way to the job interview yesterday.
   B: Didn’t she take a map? / Didn’t she get directions? / etc.
   A: I guess not. She should buy a map and keep it in her car.

7. A: Jason hasn’t found a job yet.
   B: Why not? Why hasn’t he found a job yet?
   A: Because

8. A: John really wants to have a pet, but he’s allergic to cats and dogs.
   B: Why doesn’t he get some other kind of pet? / Can’t he get a fish or bird? / etc.
   A: Yes, I suppose he could get a bird or a fish.


All English-Zone.Com materials © Kaye Mastin Mallory - Permission is granted to print this page for personal or class use only.