

What is the difference between No- and Any-?

Compare the left and the right side of this table:

Have you got anything to eat in the house?	I don't have anything to eat in the house.	I have nothing to eat in the house.
Are you going anywhere this weekend?	She isn't going anywhere this weekend.	She is going nowhere this weekend.
Are you anyone important?	I am not anyone important.	I am no one important.
Do you want to do anything today?	I don't want to do anything today.	I want to do nothing today.
Do you like anyone at this party?	I don't like anyone at this party.	I like no one at this party.

1. Can you underline the differences between the sentences in the table above?
2. What is the main difference between the right side and left side of the table?
3. When do we use "any-" and when do we use "no-"? Why?

Write two of your own example sentences following the examples above

Explanation:

No- and Any- are both negative indefinite pronouns. They are used to give a negative meaning to a sentence. The big difference is that we use No- with affirmative sentences and Any- with negative sentences or questions.

For Example:

1. "I don't have anything to do in my house"
2. "I have nothing to do in my house."
3. "Have you got anything to do in your house?"

You can see that in the first and second sentence we use *don't* which is negative so we must use *any-*.

In the second sentence we use *no-* because it is an affirmative sentence.

Read this text and underline the indefinite pronouns:

There was once a man no one liked. He was not nice, and he couldn't go anywhere without people recognizing him. They would say mean things to him like: "That's the rich man who won't give anyone anything. He just sits at home without talking to anyone and only comes out to buy food. What a terrible little man!"

The man hated what everyone said and would think "I don't like anyone in this town. They are all poor and hateful. They are just jealous because they can't buy anything."

Question: Do you agree or disagree with the old man? Why?

Complete these sentences with the correct indefinite pronoun:

Anyone	Anywhere	Anything
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1. I can't seem to find my keys _____.
2. Isn't there _____ who can help me?
3. Don't touch _____ you can't afford!
4. Doctor, please! Is there _____ I can do?
5. Where do you want to go?
_____ is fine.
6. Does _____ know CPR?

Match the sentences from A-F to 1-6

a. I have never seen anyone	1. to go to the cinema.
b. I'm so busy but there is nowhere	2. to see here.
c. Nobody here wants	3. get a drink after work?
d. There is nothing	4. before the war.
e. Anybody want to	5. do that before!
f. There was nothing here	6. where I can go to finish my work.

Discussion Questions:

1. Is there anything you still must do today? What is it?
2. Are you going anywhere this weekend?
3. Are you seeing anyone at the moment?
4. Have you watched anything interesting recently? What was it about?
5. Do you like reading? Have you read anything good recently?