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In English, there are words that link positive or negative phrases or ideas with the meaning 'this is also true'. They are: 'also', 'as well', 'too', 'so', 'either' and 'neither'. Although, these words have the same meaning, they are used in different positions in a sentence and link either positive or negative statements.

Also, as well, too

These three words mean 'in addition'. We use them in positive sentences:

- I like basketball and I **also** like football.
- I like basketball and I like football too.
- I like basketball and I like football **as well**.

The main difference is their *position* in a sentence.

Also

'Also' is commonly used in writing, but is less common in speaking. It occupies different positions in a sentence.

'Also' is usually used:

- before the main verb (often between an <u>auxiliary</u> and a <u>main verb</u>)
 - Jill walks to school, and Sara **also** walks to school.
 - I love chocolate. I **also** love pizza.
 - I can **also** speak French.
 - I have **also** been there.



- after the verb 'to be'
 - I am also Canadian.
 - I was **also** there.

We can use 'also' in front position to emphasize what follows or to add a new point or topic:

• It's very humid. **Also**, you can easily get sunburnt.

Too

'Too' has the same meaning as 'also' adding an agreeing thought. It's usually used at the end of the sentence:

- I love chocolate. I love pizza too.
- Frank can come with us. Nancy can come with us too.

'Too' can occur immediately after the subject, if it refers directly to the subject:

• We, too, have been very pleased to be there.

'Too' is especially common in responses to fixed expressions (such as wishes), and in responses consisting of a single object pronoun:

- Enjoy your time! Yeah, thanks! Enjoy your evening **too**.
- I hate mushrooms. Yeah, me too.

As well

'As well' is very similar to 'too' in terms of meaning and position in a sentence. It is used much more common in speaking than in writing, and is more common in speaking than 'also'.

'As well' is used at the end of the sentence:

- I'll have steak please. And I'll have vegetables as well.
- My mother can't drive a car. My mother can't drive as well.

'Too' and 'as well' are common in spoken and informal British English. ('As well' sounds formal or old-fashioned in American English.)



Here's a picture to summarize this information:



impactlanguagetraining.com

via https://vk.com/@project_rgups-also-too-well-as-either-neither-so-ispolzovanie

So

We can also use 'so' to mean 'in addition' in positive sentences:

• I like basketball and so does my brother.

(This means the same as 'I like basketball and my brother likes basketball too'.)



Note: The structure here is **[so + auxiliary verb + subject]**.

NOT: I like basketball and so likes my brother.

We use '**so do I**' to say that a positive sentence is also true for me:

- I hate mushrooms.
- So do I (=I also hate mushrooms).

In spoken English, we can say:

I can swim.

- I can swim too.
- I can too.
- Me too.
- So can I.

Not either, neither & neither... nor

To connect *negative ideas* adding an agreeing thought, we use the words 'either' and 'neither'.

Either

'Either' has the same meaning as *'too'* but it's used in *negative sentences* — *'not... either'* — at the *end* of a sentence:

- My sister doesn't like basketball and she doesn't like football **either**.
- (NOT: She doesn't like basketball and she doesn't like basketball too.)
- She can't dance and she can't sing **either**.
- I didn't like the movie **either**.

Neither

The word 'neither' is used to express a negative thought but with a positive verb:

Compare 'either' and 'neither':

- I haven't seen Michael today.
- I haven't (seen him) either. / Neither have I.



As with the previous example, we can express the same idea with 'neither'. The word order is inverted after 'neither':

- She doesn't like basketball and **neither does she** like football.
- She can't dance and **neither can she** sing.
- We can also express the same idea with 'neither... nor':
 - She likes **neither** basketball **nor** football.
 - She can **neither** dance **nor** sing.
- We can also use 'neither' like this:
 - My sister doesn't like basketball and neither does my mother.

(This means the same as 'My sister doesn't like basketball and my mother doesn't like basketball either'. NOT: I like basketball and so likes my brother.)

Note: The structure here is [neither + auxiliary verb + subject].

NOT: She doesn't like basketball and neither likes my mother.

In spoken English, we can say:

I can't play the quitar.

- I can't play the guitar either.
- I can't either.
- *Me either.* (US English)
- *Me neither.* (UK English)
- Neither can I.

Be careful not to use two 'negative words' together:

— She can't sing and she can't dance either.

(NOT: She can't sing and she can't dance neither.)

- I can't play the guitar.
- I can't either. (NOT: I can't neither.)
- Neither can I. (NOT: Neither can't I.)

Here's a good video from Papa English explaining how these words are used:



See also:

Correlative Conjunctions

Position of Adverbs in a Sentence