



ENGLISH GRAMMAR 2 INTERMEDIATE LEVEL

Unit 89 – both / both of,
neither /neither of, either / either of

tienganh



both / both of, neither /neither of, either / either of



BOTH / NEITHER / EITHER

A

❖ We use **both/neither/either** for two things.

You can use these words with a noun (both books, neither book etc.). For example, you are going out to eat.

There are two possible restaurants. You say:

- EX1: **Both restaurants** are good. (not the both restaurants)
- EX2: **Neither restaurant** is expensive.
- EX3: We can go to **either restaurant**. I don't mind. (= one or the other, it doesn't matter which)
- EX4: I haven't been to **either restaurant** before. (= not one or the other)

❖ You can also use **both/neither/either** without a noun:

- EX5: 'Which do you prefer, basketball or tennis?' 'It's hard to say. I like **both**.'
- EX6: 'Is your friend British or American?' '**Neither**. She's Australian.'
- EX7: 'Do you want tea or coffee?' '**Either**. I don't mind.'

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BOTH OF / NEITHER OF / EITHER OF

B

- ❖ We use **both of / neither of / either of + the/these/my/Tom's ... etc.** So we say 'both of the restaurants', 'both of those restaurants' etc. (but not both of restaurants):
 - EX8: **Both of these** restaurants are good.
 - EX9: **Neither of the** restaurants we went to was expensive.
 - EX10: I haven't been to **either of those** restaurants.
- ❖ You don't need **of** after **both**. So you can say:
 - EX11: **Both of these** restaurants are good. or **Both these** restaurants are good.
- ❖ We also use **both of / neither of / either of + us/you/them**:
 - EX12: (talking to two people) Can **either of you** speak Russian?
 - EX13: I asked two people how to get to the station, but **neither of them** knew.
- ❖ We say 'both **of**' before **us/you/them** (you need to use **of**):
 - EX14: **Both of us** were tired. (not Both us were ...)
- ❖ After **neither of ...** a verb can be singular or plural:
 - EX15: Neither of them **is** at home. or Neither of them **are** at home.

both / both of, neither /neither of, either / either of



BOTH ... AND ... / NEITHER ... NOR... / EITHER ... OR ...

C

- ❖ **both ... and ...** EX16: **Both** Chris **and** Paul were late.
EX17: I was **both** tired **and** hungry when I arrived home.
- ❖ **neither ... nor ...** EX18: **Neither** Chris **nor** Paul came to the party.
EX19: There was an accident outside our house, but we **neither** saw **nor** heard anything.
- ❖ **either ... or ...** EX20: I'm not sure where Maria's from. She's **either** Spanish **or** Italian.
EX21: **Either** you apologise, **or** I'll never speak to you again.

both / both of, neither /neither of, either / either of



EITHER, NEITHER, BOTH V.S ANY, NONE, ALL

D

Compare **either/neither/both** (two things) and **any/none/all** (more than two):

- EX22A: There are **two** good hotels here.
- EX22B: There are **many** good hotels here.
- EX23A: You could stay at **either** of them.
- EX23B: You could stay at **any** of them.
- EX24A: We tried **two** hotels.
- EX24B: We tried **a lot of** hotels.
- EX25A: **Neither** of them had a room.
- EX25B: **None** of them had a room.
- EX26A: **Both** of them were full.
- EX26B: **All** of them were full.

both / both of, neither /neither of, either / either of



TÓM TẮT

1. Chúng ta có thể dùng các từ chỉ định (**determiner**) **both/neither/either** với một cặp (2) danh từ. *Both books, neither books, either books v.v...* Khi ngữ cảnh đã xác định được danh từ chúng ta đang nói đến, chúng ta có thể lược bỏ danh từ, và chỉ cần dùng *both, neither, either*. “Which do you prefer, basketball or tennis?” “It’s hard to say. I like **both**.”
2. Chúng ta cũng có thể dùng **both of ..., neither of ..., either of ... + danh từ xác định** (the + danh từ hoặc từ xác định + danh từ) hoặc một đại từ túc từ. *Neither of the restaurants we went to was expensive. Both of us were tired.* Riêng với **both**, chúng ta không cần thêm “of” (nghĩa là thêm cũng không sao). **Both these restaurants are good.**
3. Sau *neither of ...*, động từ có thể là số ít hoặc số nhiều.
4. Chúng ta có thể dùng **both .. and / neither ... nor ... / either ... or ...** trong các cụm danh từ làm chủ ngữ hoặc túc từ trong câu. *Neither Chris nor Paul came to the party.*