

Inversion of the subject

Name: _____ Date: _____

A. The inversion of the subject may occur in different situations:

- in conditional sentences when we omit the conjunction **if**. This makes the sentences more formal and is used less often.

Example: **If** they were here, they would welcome us. **Were** they here, they would welcome us. **Should** they see me, they would welcome me.

- in **relative clauses** or **adverbial clauses** whose meaning is either **restrictive** or **relative** and placed at the beginning of sentences. This is more common in written formal English to make them less boring and more elegant and specific.

Example: **Who** arrives earliest today will win.
When it rains we will go to the park.

Other structures: **Relative Adverb** + **Verb** (usually) + **Subject** + **Main Verb**

Other examples of relative or adverbial clauses that follow this rule are:

hardly	not only	not until	not that
not only	only today	not present	not
not when	only by chance	not when	not when
not only	only with a little help	not to be surprised	not when
not when	only to find	by no means	not when
	only in the morning		

B. Rewrite the following sentences keeping them as requested.

1. The fact is never arrived that he was indeed behind again.

Relative clause

2. He is a very busy man who is always interested with everybody's life.

Relative clause

3. She didn't know that he was planning to come to the party.

Relative clause

4. They didn't know a better way to the cinema drive.

Relative clause

5. I remember not to forget to call.

Relative clause

6. They will never forget their vacation.

Relative clause

7. She not only passed the English exam, she enjoyed the class itself.

Relative clause

8. He was hardly ever on the telephone recently.

Relative clause

9. If they find the answer to the question, they will be happy.

Relative clause

10. He is the only person who has the problem you face.

Relative clause