43 So/Neither do I and I think so

1 So and neither

Vicky: *I'm hungry.*
Rachel: ***So am I**. I haven't eaten anything all day.*
Daniel: ***Neither have I**. I didn't have time for breakfast.*

We use **so** after a positive statement and **neither** after a negative one.
   *I**'m** hungry. ~ **So** am I. (= And I'm hungry./I'm hungry, too.)*
   *I **haven't** eaten. ~ **Neither** have I. (= And I haven't eaten./I haven't eaten either.)*

The structure is **so/neither** + an auxiliary + the subject.
The auxiliary is a form of **be** or **have** or a modal verb, e.g. **can**.
   *We're really busy at work. ~ **So are we**.*
   *Tom has gone to the match. ~ And **so has Nick**.*
   *David can't drive, and **neither can Melanie**.*
The subject comes at the end. NOT *We're busy. ~ ~~So we are.~~*
In the Present Simple and Past Simple we use a form of **do**.
   *I love old cowboy films. ~ **So do I**.   This phone doesn't work. ~ **Neither does this one**.*
   *United won, and **so did Rangers**.*

We can use **nor** instead of **neither**.
   *Emma isn't here tonight. **Neither/Nor** is Matthew.*

2 I think so, etc.

Vicky: *It's 'Round the Corner' at half past seven, my favourite soap opera. Are we going to be back in time?*
Daniel: ***I think so.** We haven't got far to go now.*
Rachel: *We might miss the beginning.*
Vicky: *Oh, **I hope not.** I want to know if Bernard really did steal the money.*

Here *I think **so*** means 'I think we'll be back in time', and *I hope **not***
means 'I hope we don't miss the beginning'.

We can use **so** after **be afraid**, **believe**, **expect**, **guess**, **hope**, **suppose** and **think**.
   *Do you think you'll get the job? ~ Well, I **hope so**.*
   *Are you going on holiday this year? ~ Yes, I **expect so**.*
   *I don't know for sure if Henry is rich, but I should **think so**.*
But we cannot use **so** after **know** or **be sure**.
   *There's been an accident. ~ Yes, **I know**. NOT ~~I know so.~~*
   *Are you sure you're doing the right thing? ~ Yes, **I'm sure**. NOT ~~I'm sure so.~~*

There are two negative structures.

NEGATIVE + **so**	POSITIVE + **not**
*Is it raining? ~ I **don't think so**.*	*Is it raining? ~ I **hope not**.*
*Are you going to the concert? ~ I **don't expect so**.*	*Have we won a prize? ~ I**'m afraid not**.*
With **expect** and **think**, we normally use the negative and **so**.	With **be afraid**, **guess** and **hope**, we use the positive and **not**.

We can use **believe** and **suppose** in either structure.
   *Will there be any seats left? ~ I **don't suppose so**. OR I **suppose not**.*

Practice

A So and neither (1)

Andrew has just met Jessica at a party. They are finding out that they have a lot in common.

Put in the structures with *so* and *neither*.

Andrew: I haven't been to a party for ages.

▶ Jessica: ~~Neither have I~~ . I hate crowded rooms.

▶ Andrew: Yes, ~~so do I~~ . I'm not a party-goer, really.

1 Jessica: No, ... I can't make conversation.

2 Andrew: .... You know, I'm a quiet sort of person.

3 Jessica: And .... I lead a pretty quiet life.

4 Andrew: Well, ... I haven't got many friends.

5 Jessica: .... And I would really like a good friend.

6 Andrew: Oh, ...

B So and neither (1)

Look at the table and complete the sentences.

	Mark	Claire	Melanie	Emma
Music	✓	✗	✗	✓
Travel	✓	✓	✗	✗
Skiing	✗	✓	✓	✗
Cooking	✗	✗	✓	✓

▶ Claire can ski, and ~~so can Melanie.~~ ....

▶ Mark isn't keen on cooking, and ~~neither is Claire.~~ ....

1 Melanie doesn't like travelling much, and ....

2 Mark has got lots of CDs, and ....

3 Emma can't ski, and ....

4 Claire isn't a music lover, and ....

5 Melanie cooks quite often, and ....

6 Mark travels quite a lot, and ....

C I think so, etc. (2)

Complete these short conversations. Put in structures with *so* or *not* and use the words in brackets.

▶ Laura: Does the library open on Saturdays? (think)

Trevor: Yes, ~~I think so~~ . But I'm not absolutely certain.

▶ Harriet: You can't go out for an evening meal wearing shorts. (guess)

Mike: ~~I guess not~~ . I'd better put some trousers on.

1 Sarah: Will there be a lot of people at the concert tonight? (expect)

Mark: .... There aren't usually very many.

2 Daniel: Are you going to apply for the job? (suppose)

Vicky: .... It's the only one available.

3 David: Do you think it's going to rain? (hope)

Melanie: Well, ... I'm just about to go out.

4 Nick: Will the match take place in this weather? (think)

Tom: .... In fact, I'm sure it won't.

5 Claire: Is my coat ready, please? (afraid)

Assistant: .... We're having problems with the machine.