

## English Grammar – Substitution

We can avoid repetition of a word or phrase using substitution.

### 1. Substituting a phrase with “so” or “not”:

We substitute a positive phrase with “so”:

- Are you happy with the itinerary? ~~If you are happy~~ If **so**, I'll tell the travel agency.
- It was very hot and stayed ~~very hot~~ **so** for many days.
- Is John a vegetarian? ~~I believe that John is a vegetarian~~. I believe **so**.
- Do you think that Peter will be late again? ~~I think that he'll be late again~~. I think **so**.
- Is John in trouble? I'm afraid **so**.
- Will it rain tomorrow? I guess **so**.
- Are those people English? I think **so**.
- Will you be at home tomorrow morning? I expect **so**.
- Do you know if Kate was invited to the party? I hope **so**.

We substitute a negative phrase with “not”:

- Are you happy with the itinerary? ~~If you are not happy~~ If **not**, I'll tell the travel agency.
- Don't you like brown bread? ~~If you don't like brown bread~~ If **not**, tell me.
- Do you think that you will be late? I think **not**.
- Do you believe that he will come for dinner? I believe **not**.
- Will he be angry? I hope **not**.
- Can you come to dinner tomorrow? I'm afraid **not**.

**Exercise 1.** Complete the following sentences with “so” or “not”. Sometimes, both are possible.

1. Will you pass your driving test? I hope \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Is Peter French? I think \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Will it rain tomorrow? I believe \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Am I in trouble? I'm afraid \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Did I pass the test? I'm afraid \_\_\_\_\_.
6. Can I go to bed at midnight, daddy? I suppose \_\_\_\_\_.

## 2. Substituting an object with “one” or “ones”:

We use **one** (singular) and **ones** (plural) to avoid **unnecessary repetition**:

- Do you see those two girls over there? Helen is the tall **one** and Jane is the short **one**.
- I'd like a cup of coffee. Would you like **one**?
- Which is your car, the red **one** or the blue **one**?
- I like black cars, but I don't like white **ones**.
- My pants are torn. I need new **ones**.
- You can borrow any book you like. Which **one** do you want?
- There are a lot of books here. Which **ones** are yours?

**Exercise 2.** Complete the following sentences with “one” or “ones”.

1. How old are your children? The younger \_\_\_\_\_ is four and the older \_\_\_\_\_ is seven.
2. New mobiles are much better than old \_\_\_\_\_ .
3. I don't mind what color the car is, I just want \_\_\_\_\_ that works.
4. Which jacket do you prefer – this \_\_\_\_\_ or that \_\_\_\_\_ ?
5. I need new glasses. The \_\_\_\_\_ that I use are broken.