Negative Words

Some words have a negative connotation: barely, rarely, never, seldom, hardly, etc. If you use them along with another negative word in a sentence, you can accidentally create a double negative. For example:



INCORRECT: My baby sister hasn't barely started crawling.

CORRECT: My baby sister has barely started crawling. My baby sister hasn't started crawling.

DIRECTIONS: Rewrite each sentence below to correct the double negative.

- 1. I haven't never had a cavity.
- 2. We don't hardly eat in restaurants.
- 3. Jim hasn't barely started his homework.
- 4. We won't rarely take that route.
- 5. He doesn't seldom wake up early.
- 6. They haven't never cooperated with us.

