

Name \_\_\_\_\_ **Double Negatives**



# The Double Negative

When two negative words are used in the same sentence, it is called a **double negative**. Avoid double negatives, since one negative word is needed to express a negative idea. Additionally, a double negative can be confusing to the reader.

**DIRECTIONS:** Choose the sentence from each pair that is written correctly.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. A. That market isn't not closed on Sundays.  
B. That market isn't closed on Sundays.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. A. Jill hasn't seldom left the state of Maryland.  
B. Jill has seldom left the state of Maryland.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. A. We weren't not notified about the change.  
B. We weren't notified about the change.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. A. Nobody I know bicycles to work.  
B. Not nobody I know bicycles to work.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. A. There aren't no reasons why he should be late.  
B. There are no reasons why he should be late.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. A. This cake is irresistible.  
B. This cake isn't not irresistible.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. A. Hardly any of these kids don't behave.  
B. Hardly any of these kids behave.