Subject: Who Needs Inversion

1. Change the statements into questions.

a) He is riding a bike.

b) She can drive a car.

c) They will come back.

d) You're writing a letter.

e) We won't disturb you.

Answer key:
a) Is he riding a bike?; b) Can she drive a car?; c) Will they come back?; d) Are you writing a letter?; e) Will we disturb you?

2. Which of these sentences sound more formal?

Pair 1:

a) Never have I seen such a beautiful view.

b) I have never seen such a beautiful view.

Pair 2:

c) Rarely does a thing like that happen.

d) A thing like that happens rarely.

Pair 3:

e) The movie was so good I watched it twice.

f) So good was the movie I watched it twice.

Answer key:
a), c), f)

3. Complete the gaps with the words below.

rarely • little • never • no sooner • barely • only

a) ..... do we ever go to the cinema. We only went twice last year.

b) ..... then did we realise what a mistake we had made.

c) ..... have I heard such a good album.

d) ..... did we know what a journey it would be.

e) ..... had I arrived when the party ended.

f) ..... had we asked where John was than he stepped out of the car.

Answer key:
a) rarely; b) only; c) never; d) little; e) barely; f) no sooner

4. Find and correct mistakes in the sentences.

a) Never have I was to such a large city.

b) Seldom you hear such great news!

c) Not only he does hike but he also climbs.

d) Rarely had I got inside when it started raining.

e) Only after I'd seen the show had I understand why it got so many good reviews.

5. Write five sentences using inversion.