

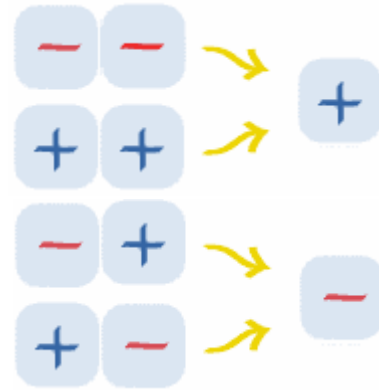
DOUBLE NEGATIVES

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A **double negative** occurs when we incorrectly combine the negative form of a verb (e.g. cannot, did not, have not) with a:

- negative pronoun (nothing, nobody etc.)
- negative adverb (never, rarely)
- negative conjunction (neither/nor)

In Czech this is fine and makes sense but **in English, we need to be careful because using a double negative gives a positive meaning to the sentence.**



IT WASN'T ME!



Jakub traveled to New York, and while walking through Central Park, he was stopped by the **cops** and **arrested**. He was very confused because he told the policemen that he **didn't know nothing** and **didn't do nothing**. His English wasn't very good, and so the policemen called the embassy to help translate. **It turns out** that the police were called about a **robbery**, and the **perp** **matched** the description of Jakub, which is why he was arrested. He was let go immediately after.

VOCABULARY BUILDING

cop . policajt

robbery . loupež

(to) arrest . zatknout

perp . pachatel

it turns out . dopadlo to tak

(to) match . shodovat se



QUIZ: TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Underline and correct the mistakes in the sentences:



1. On Sunday, Anna didn't feel like doing nothing because she was lazy.
2. Michaela isn't never on time and she might lose her job.
3. Martina didn't have his email nor his phone number, so she couldn't contact him.
4. Laura's glasses broke and she couldn't recognize nobody at the party.
5. I cannot say that I do not disagree with you.

KEY: 1. nothing (anything) 2. isn't (is) 3. nor (or) 4. nobody (anybody) 5. Triple negative, it means I can't agree with you