LESSON 16

some ... some

anything? non-specific	something
	not anything
what?	a light
specific	a picture
	nothing

"Anything" and "something" both mean the same thing. We use "anything" in questions and negative sentences, and we use "something" in positive sentences. For example, we say "Have I got anything in my right hand? Yes, you've got something in your right hand. Have I got anything in my left hand? No, you haven't got anything in your left hand." "Anything" we use in a non-specific question, whereas "What?" is specific and has a specific answer – "a light, a book" etc., or "nothing".

anything





not anything





nothing





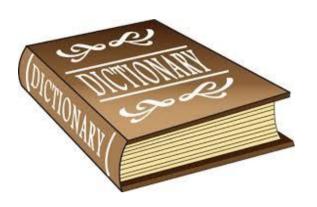


Only one negative

In English, in a negative sentence, we use only <u>one</u> negative word, not two. For example, we say "There is<u>n't</u> anything on this chair". A sentence with two negative words has a positive meaning. For example, "There is<u>n't nobody</u> on this chair" means that there is <u>somebody</u> on the chair. "I have <u>not got nothing</u> in my pocket" means that I <u>have got something</u> in my pocket.



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Teacher / Student

smell



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