

Emphasis

On page 24 we practised using the **auxiliary verb do** for emphasis, particularly when the listener is doubtful and to show contrast. For example:

A *You didn't tell me your mother was coming.* **B** *I did tell you! I told you this morning!*
I don't eat meat but I do eat fish.

Be careful not to overuse this structure! Look at these examples:

A *What time do you get up?* **B** *I do get up at half past six!* **X**
A *You never get up at half past six.* **B** *I do get up at half past six!* **✓**

1 Read each sentence in **A** and write **B**'s reply using *do*, *does* or *did* to emphasise the contrast with **A**.

<p>Example: A</p> <p>a You don't own that car!</p> <p>b Ian doesn't speak French.</p> <p>c You didn't phone me last night.</p> <p>d You don't have any money.</p> <p>e Charlie didn't tell you.</p> <p>f Jane doesn't work with you now, right?</p> <p>g He didn't get the letter.</p>	<p>B</p> <p><i>I do own this car!</i></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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2 Look at the pairs of sentences below. Only one sentence in each pair (**a** or **b**) requires *do*, *does* or *did*. Decide which one and complete both sentences using the verb in brackets in the correct tense.

Example: **1a** I don't speak French but I (speak) do speak German.
1b I used to live in Berlin, so I (speak) speak German.
2a I hate cabbage but I (like) _____ lettuce.
2b I quite like cabbage and I (like) _____ lettuce.
3a I felt better when he (apologise) _____ .
3b I was so angry with him but he (apologise) _____ .
4a "I don't think you went to work today!" "I (go) _____ to work. Ask my boss!"
4b "Where were you today?" "I (go) _____ to work. Ask my boss!"

3 When using this structure, we stress the auxiliary verb to make the contrast or emphasis clear.

Example: **A:** *You don't love me.* **B:** *I do love you!*

Work in pairs. One student reads **A** and the other **B** in exercise 1 above. When saying **B**'s sentences, be sure to put the stress in the right place!

4 Work in pairs. Write a short dialogue, between a husband and wife, who are arguing, or between a parent and naughty child. Use the *do*, *does* and *did* structure for emphasis or contrast as much as possible. When ready, act it out to the class, paying attention to the stress. Which dialogue sounded the most natural? Were there any mistakes of form or use?