

- SPEAKING** Look at the photo and discuss the questions.
 - What does it show?
 - What do you think might be the short- and long-term consequences of this situation?
- Read the report about the short- and long-term effects of flash flooding. Compare them with your answers in Exercise 1.
- Compare sentences 1–3 below with 1–3 in the report. What differences do you notice? What information is being emphasised in each sentence in the report?
 - Flood waters do not only cause structural damage to roads and buildings, they also affect power lines and water supplies.
 - The real damage can only be evaluated once the water has receded.
 - They can't imagine the conditions they'll find when they return to their houses.
- Read the GRAMMAR FOCUS to check your answers in Exercise 3.

GRAMMAR FOCUS

Inversion after adverbials

You can place an adverbial at the beginning of a sentence to emphasise some information. Then, the auxiliary verb comes before the **subject**.

We *couldn't* return to our home until August.

Not until August *could* **we** return to our home.

Present Simple: **Floods** damage roads and buildings.

Not only *do* **floods** damage ...

Past Simple: **Floods** damaged roads and buildings.

Not only *did* **floods** damage ...

Examples of **negative adverbials**:

- little with a negative use
- expressions with **not**: *not until August, not for a moment, not a word, etc.*
- expressions with **no**: *at no time, in no way, under no circumstances, etc.*

Examples of **limiting/emphatic adverbials**:

- expressions with **only**: *not only ... but ..., only after, only once, only then, only by chance, only in this way*
- hardly/scarcely ... when ...*
- no sooner ... than ...*

- In your notebook, write one word for each gap in the sentences.

- Not only does it rain heavily, it is also very windy, making rescues even more challenging.
- Only by climbing onto our roof ? we able to get away.
- Little ? they know that this would be the biggest storm they'd ever seen.
- Not until next spring ? the farmers be able to calculate the full extent of the damage.
- Only after you've experienced a flood for yourself ? you fully empathise with the victims.
- Under no circumstances ? you to attempt to enter a flooded building.
- Hardly ? we escaped through the back door when the ceiling came down.
- No sooner ? we call the emergency services than it began to rain heavily again.



The Devastating Effects of Flash Floods

Flash floods come with no warning. There's no time to prepare and once the waters hit, there's nothing you can do to stop them: roads are closed, livestock killed, crops destroyed and families forced from their homes. (1) **Not only do the flood waters cause** structural damage to roads and buildings **but** they also affect power lines and water supplies. (2) **But only once** the water has receded **can the real damage be** evaluated. Flood water carries with it mud and pollutants and often toxic waste from sewerage and industrial plants. Families who may have fled their homes in the middle of the night return home to a terrible shock. (3) **Little do they imagine** the conditions they'll find when they return to their houses.

- USE OF ENGLISH** In your notebook, rewrite the sentences so that the meaning is the same. Use the words and phrases in capitals.

- They didn't know it would rain for three consecutive days. **LITTLE**
Little did they know it would rain for three consecutive days.
- They couldn't estimate the costs of repairs until the floods had died down. **NOT UNTIL**
- Floods don't just damage real estate, but many other kinds of property are destroyed as well. **NOT ONLY**
- It was only in this way that he managed to save his house from the cyclone. **DID**
- It was pure luck that they were able to escape the hurricane. **ONLY BY CHANCE**
- As soon as I plugged the gap, it started leaking again. **NO SOONER**
- I managed to rescue the cat moments before the wall collapsed. **SCARCELY**
- The local police have shown no signs of panic at all. **AT NO TIME**

- SPEAKING** What are some recent examples of extreme weather which have been in the news? What were the details?