

PRO-FORMS: 'SO' & 'NOT'

Pro-forms are very useful in conversation. We use short forms in substitution for longer phrases which are already known by the speakers.

Learn these formulas:

- for introducing bad news:

I'm afraid so / not

- for showing optimism:

I hope so / not

- for expressing various degrees of (un)certainty:

I (don't) think / believe so.

I expect / guess so / not

Work in pairs.

Have a look at the ten replies below.

Replace the words in the boxes with the correct pro-form; 'so' or 'not'.

- 1 - Is there time for another pint, you reckon?
- Yes, I **think** *there is.*
- 2 - He left an hour ago, didn't he?
- I **believe** *he did.*
- 3 - I expect we'll have a good time at the party.
- I **hope** *we will.*
- 4 - The train seems to be very late.
- I'm **afraid** *it does.*
- 5 - Do you think it will keep fine today?
- I'm **afraid** *it won't.*
- 6 - Do you think we'll have to pay a fine?
- I **hope** *we won't.*
- 7 - You haven't used this before, have you?
- No, I **don't think** *I have.*
- 8 - Brazilians don't speak Spanish, do they?
- I **don't believe** *they do.*
- 9 - She won't be in the mood for festivities after what happened today.
- I **guess** *she won't.*
- 10 - Do you think there will be tickets available?
- I **expect** *there will be.*

Now take turns to read out each of the following statements, and reply using **pro-forms**.
When you're through, you can go over the questions again and answer with auxiliaries, as above.

- 1) Perhaps they **will** refuse to pay me.
- 2) **Wasn't** Drake a kind of pirate?
- 3) You had a very unpleasant time, I'm told.
- 4) Athens **is** on the coast, isn't it?
- 5) I think **it'll** rain tomorrow.
- 6) **It's** time to go, isn't it?
- 7) **Did** you lose?
- 8) **Is** this book a good one?
- 9) There **aren't** any cannibals in New Zealand any more, are there?
- 10) The Volga **is** the longest river in Europe, isn't it?
- 11) **Are** the shops open on Sundays?
- 12) Do you think they **will** help us?
- 13) **Is** Australia the largest island in the world?
- 14) **Is there** a good film on TV tonight?
- 15) **Are there** any tigers in Africa?
- 16) Do you think we **can** beat them?
- 17) I'm sure you'll soon get better.
- 18) **Are** buses cheaper than trains?
- 19) Do you think **there may be** life after death?
- 20) **Did** you enjoy the film?