BOTH / BOTH OF / NEITHER / NEITHER OF / EITHER / EITHER OF

A/ We use both/ neither/ either for two things. You can use these words with a noun (both books, neither book etc.).

For example, you are talking about going out to eat this evening. There are two restaurants where you can go. You say:

- Both restaurants are very good, (not 'the both restaurants')
- · Neither restaurant is expensive.
- We can go to either restaurant. I don't mind, (either = one or the other, it doesn't matter which one)

B/ Both of... / neither of... / either of...

When you use both/ neither/ either + of, you always need the... / these/ those... / my/ your/ his/Tom's... (etc.). You cannot say 'both of restaurants'. You have to say 'both of the restaurants', 'both of those restaurants' etc.:

- Both of these restaurants are very good.
- Neither of the restaurants we went to was (or were) expensive.
- I haven't been to either of those restaurants. (= I haven't been to one or the other)

You don't need **of** after both. So you can say:

• Both my parents are from London, or Both of my parents...

You can use both of / neither of / either of + us/you/them:

- (talking to two people) Can either of you speak Spanish?
- I asked two people the way to the station but neither of them knew.

You must say 'both of' before us/ you/ them (of is necessary):

• Both of us were very tired, (not 'Both us were...')

After **neither of**... a singular or a plural verb is possible:

• Neither of the children wants (or want) to go to bed.

C/ You can also use both/ neither/ either alone:

- I couldn't decide which of the two shirts to buy. I liked both, (or I liked both of them.)
- 'Is your friend British or American?' 'Neither. She's Australian.'
- 'Do you want tea or coffee?' 'Either. I don't mind.'

Both	and: Both Ann and Tom were late.	
	I was both tired and hungry when I arrived home.	
Neithe	ner nor: Neither Liz nor Robin came to the party.	
	She said she would contact me but she neither wrote nor phone	ed.
Either	r or: I'm not sure where he's from. He's either Spanish or Ital	ian.
	Either you apologise or I'll never speak to you again.	
QUES"	STIONS:	
1.	'Do you want tea or coffee?',	I really don't mind.'
	'What day is it today - the 18th or the 19th?'20th,'	, It's the
3.	'There are two sandwiches here; which one shall I take? 'oh, take	
4.	I asked two people the way to the station but	them could help
	me.	
	'When shall I phone you, morning or afternoon?'	•
	'Where's Kate? Is she at work or at home?', s	
	To get to the town centre you can go along the footpath by the river o	r you can go along the
	road. You can go way.	
	I tried to call George twice but	
9.	1 3	sh and his mother is
	Italian.	+1
). I was invited to two parties last week but I didn't go to	
	. Sarah and I play tennis together regularly but	
	P. I tried two bookshops for the book I wanted but	tnem
	3. There were two windows in the room. It was very warm, so I opened them.	
	ment.	
ANSW	WERS:	
1. eithe	ner	
2. neitl	ther	

D/ You can say:

3. either

- 4. neither of
- 5. either
- 6. neither
- 7. either
- 8. both
- 9. neither of
- 10. either of
- 11. neither of
- 12. neither of
- 13. both of