

# Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use rather, would rather and rather than.

1. He is .....

- rather fool
- a rather fool
- rather a fool

2. That was .....

- rather a good idea
- a rather good idea
- Either could be used here

3. We ..... hoping he would leave soon.

- rather were
- were rather
- Either could be used here

4. I would prefer to come on Tuesday ..... on Thursday.

- rather
- would rather

# Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise

rather than

5. I decided to phone rather than .....

write

writing

Either could be used here

6. Would you rather ..... here or go home.

stay

to stay

staying

7. I would rather ..... something to eat.

have

to have

having

8. I would rather you ..... me alone.

leave

left

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leaving  
had left

9. 'Should I turn the heating on?' 'I would rather you .....

not  
didn't  
hadn't

10. It is important to find new markets rather than ..... new people.

hire  
hiring  
Either could be used here

11. Rather than ..... the last of my cash for a meal, I chose to stay hungry.

Please select 2 correct answers

spending  
spend  
to spend

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12. I would rather you ..... that. You upset her.

didn't say

hadn't said

Either could be used here

## Answers

1. He is rather a fool.
2. That was a rather good idea / rather a good idea.
3. We were rather hoping he would leave soon.
4. I would prefer to come on Tuesday rather than on Thursday.
5. I decided to phone rather than write / writing.
6. Would you rather stay here or go home?
7. I would rather have something to eat.
8. I would rather you left me alone.
9. 'Should I turn the heating on?' 'I would rather you didn't.'
10. It is important to find new markets rather than hire / hiring new people.
11. Rather than spending / spend the last of my cash for a meal, I chose to stay hungry.
12. I would rather you hadn't said that. You upset her.