

## 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

## Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise

Either could be used here

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

rather

would rather

rather than

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

write

writing

Either could be used here

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

## Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise

stay

to stay

staying

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

have

to have

having

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

leave

left

leaving

had left

**Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise**

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

## Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise

spend

to spend

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.

## **Rather, Would Rather, Rather Than Exercise**

12. I would rather you hadn't said that. You upset her.