



NEGATIVE PARTICLES

Laisa لَيْسَ

لَيْسَ is a weak or an incomplete verb used for negation. The table format is only in the past tense,

but it is used for the present tense. The table format is as follows:

Plural جمع	Dual مثنى	Singular مفرد	
لَيْسُوا They are not	لَيْسَا They are not	لَيْسَ He is not	الغائب المذكر Third person masculine
لَسْنَ They are not	لَيْسَتَا They are not	لَيْسَتْ She is not	الغائب المؤنث Third person feminine
لَسْتُمْ You are not	لَسْتُمَا You are not	لَسْتَ You are not	الحاضر المذكر Second person masculine
لَسْتُنَّ You are not	لَسْتُمَا You are not	لَسْتِ You are not	الحاضر المؤنث Second person feminine
لَسْنَا We are not	لَسْنَا We are not	لَسْتُ I am not	المتكلم المذكر/المؤنث First person (masculine & feminine)

Note: the second letter of the verb (ي) is dropped starting with the feminine third person plural to the end of the table.

Examples:

أَلَيْسَ اللَّهُ بِأَحْكَمِ الْحَاكِمِينَ

Is not Allah the wisest of judges? (95:8)

لَيْسُوا سَوَاءً

They (all) are not the same. (3:113)

لَسْتَ عَلَيْهِمْ بِمُصَيْطِرٍ

You are not a guard upon them. (88:22)

يَا أَهْلَ الْكِتَابِ لَسْتُمْ عَلَى شَيْءٍ حَتَّى تُقِيمُوا التَّوْرَةَ

O people of the Book! You have no ground unless you are steadfast by the Gospel. (5:68)

قُلْ لَسْتُ عَلَيْكُمْ بِوَكِيلٍ

Say, "I am not responsible for your affairs." (6:66)

لَنْ، لَمْ، لَا، مَا

are also words of negation. These have been discussed in detail in the previous lessons.

إِنْ also becomes a word of negation when it is followed by إِلَّا in the sentence;

Examples:

إِنْ هُوَ إِلَّا ذِكْرٌ لِلْعَالَمِينَ

This is no less than a message for the nations. (12:104)

إِنْ أَنَا إِلَّا نَذِيرٌ مُبِينٌ

I am sent only to warn openly. (26:115)

إِنْ تَتَّبِعُونَ إِلَّا الظَّنَّ
You follow nothing but conjecture. (6:148)

إِنْ أَنْتُمْ إِلَّا تَخْرُصُونَ
You do nothing but lie. (6:148)

Sometimes **إِنْ** gives the same negative sense, even without **إِلَّا**; e.g.:

وَأِنْ أَدْرِي لَعَلَّهُ فِتْنَةٌ لَكُمْ
And I do not know if this may be a trial for you. (21:111)

وَأِنْ أَدْرِي أَقْرَبُ أَمْ بَعِيدُ مَا تُوعَدُونَ
And I do not know whether what you are promised is near or far. (21:109)

إِنْ عِنْدَكُمْ مِنْ سُلْطَانٍ بِهَذَا
You have no warrant for this. (10:68)

Sometimes **إِنْ** is actually **إِنِّ**. It can be determined by the predicate, which is always preceded by a **لَ**.

Examples:

وَأِنْ كَانَ أَصْحَابُ الْأَيْكَةِ ظَالِمِينَ
Indeed the companions of the woods were wrongdoers. (15:78)

وَأِنْ كَانَتْ لَكَبِيرَةً إِلَّا عَلَى الَّذِينَ هَدَى اللَّهُ
Indeed it was momentous except for those whom Allah guided. (2:143)

وَأِنْ كُنَّا لَخَاطِئِينَ
And we certainly have been guilty of sin. (12:91)

وَأِنْ كُنْتُمْ مِنْ قَبْلِهِ لَمَنِ الْغَافِلِينَ
Before this you were indeed among those who knew not. (12:3)