



LET ALONE, MUCH LESS, NOT TO MENTION, NEVER MIND

(y mucho menos/más, geschweige denn, sans parler de)

LET ALONE

'Let alone' is used after a statement to emphasize that because the first thing is not likely to happen, the second thing is even less likely to be true or possible (only used with negative statements).

- I hardly have time to go to the gym these days, **let alone** study Spanish.
- The baby can't even walk yet, **let alone** run!
- I don't have enough money to buy a new mobile phone, **let alone** a car.
- I would struggle to do 20 push ups, **let alone** 50!

MUCH LESS/STILL LESS /EVEN LESS

Used after a negative statement in order to emphasize that it applies even more to what you say next.

- You couldn't run 10km, **much less** a marathon!
- I cannot afford to take two weeks off work, **even less** 6 months!
- What man would consider a date with her, **still less** a marriage?
- I don't like getting up at 5 a.m. every day, **still less** enjoy it!

NOT TO MENTION

'Not to mention' is used to introduce extra information and emphasize what you are saying.

Used after both positive and negative statements.

- Rooms were very affordable, **not to mention** comfortable, cosy and clean.
- He's one of the strongest and most intelligent, **not to mention** attractive, men I know.
- I'm growing a moustache much to the annoyance of my mother, **not to mention** my girlfriend.
- Being in a relationship is not easy, **not to mention** marriage.

NEVER MIND

Used for emphasizing that something is not likely or possible, because even a less extreme thing is not likely or either.

- He can barely bench press 20Kg, **never mind** 100Kg!
- He is only 9 and he is already a pain in the back side, **never mind** by the time he is 15.
- She finds it hard to start a conversation with a stranger, **never mind** give a speech in front of 500 people.