

LESSON 14

Types of Sentences

Imperative sentences & Exclamatory sentences

Sentences beginning with 'what', 'how', 'who'

<p>Get away</p> 	<p>Will you please give it to me?</p> 	<p>Be a good child</p> 
Command	Request	Exhortation

While speaking, a speaker adopts different modes and tones according to the situation and purpose. For example, when he is describing something he states things (e.g. The man in the black suit was walking fast and the police were chasing him); If he is making an enquiry he will use the interrogative form (e.g. Who brought the taxi here? When did the taxi arrive? etc.). There is yet another mode where the speaker is commanding or exhorting or making a request. Sentences using these modes are called imperative sentences.

Structures in imperative sentences

Study the following dialogue:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Verb</u>	<u>Predicate</u>
X	Go	away.
X	Put	it on the table.

We note the following in these sentences

- (i) The sentences have no subject.
- (ii) The verb used is a command or request.
- (iii) Tense is always the present tense i.e. with no endings like 'ed' (liked), 'ing' (liking) or 's' (likes)
- (iv) Voice used is generally active.

- (v) There is no use of modal auxiliaries such as can, could, will, would, shall, must, need.
- (vi) These can be affirmative or negative, that is. in their 'yes' or 'no' form.

Forms of command

I Simple commands

- (i) Come and sit here.
- (ii) Keep standing.
- (iii) Bring your book.
- (iv) Don't make any noise.
- (v) Get up and leave the room.

II Command in the form of request – adding the word of request in the beginning or at the end of the sentence

- (i) Please do it fast.
- (ii) Get away from here please.
- (iii) Don't irritate me anymore, please.
- (iv) Leave me alone, please.
- (v) Please leave me to myself.

III Commands or requests in interrogatives

- (i) Will you go away from here?
- (ii) Do you mind leaving me alone, please

IV Commands in which second person is retained

These commands are admonitory in tone and express extreme irritation hence, they do not combine polite words such as 'please'.

You mind your own business. Leave me alone.

You are nobody to advise me.

(Read loudly using the correct intonation)

- (i) Daughter: Mother, can we go for a picnic today?
 Mother: Leave me alone. Let me finish my work.
- (ii) Daughter: Why can't you get a typist to do your work? You unnecessarily tire yourself.

- Mother : Mind your own business. I don't need your advice.
- (iii) Student : Sir, please help me solve these sums.
- Teacher: How many times I have told you not to disturb me.
- Student : Please, Sir, give me just half an hour.
- Teacher: Will you please go away from here. Don't irritate me anymore.



V Commands with Let

Such commands are in the form of exhortations or advice:

- (i) Let us work hard.
- (ii) Let us wait and watch.
- (iii) Let each man think for himself.
- (iv) Let all the students reach in time
- (v) Let us pray for the soldiers fighting for us.
- (vi) Let there be no fights among us.

VI Negative commands

Positive	Negative
(i) Open the door.	Don't open the door.
(ii) Move the chairs.	Don't move the chairs.
(iii) Let anyone do it.	Don't let anyone do it.
(iv) Come in.	You dare come in.
(v) Sit down.	Keep standing. There's no need to sit down.

Exclamatory Sentences

An exclamatory sentence expresses a sudden feeling or emotion –

- | | |
|--|------------|
| (i) Hurrah! We have won the match. | (Joy) |
| (ii) Alas, I am left alone. | (Grief) |
| (iii) Ah! What a joy to have you here. | (Surprise) |
| (iv) Bravo! Keep it up. | (Approval) |

Other expressions can be – gracious me, how wonderful, well done etc.

Exclamatory Sentences with 'What or How + noun phrase'

- (i) What a wonderful day we had!
- (ii) How nice to see you!
- (iii) What a surprise to see you after so long!
- (iv) How wonderful everything is here!

- (v) How foolish of you to do this!
- (vi) How dirty it is!

Points to note:

1. In such sentences the exclamation follows much the same pattern as that of 'Wh' questions. For example, in the sentence 'What a surprise!' the pattern is similar to that of an interrogative sentence yet it is not a question, but an exclamation.
2. In sentences, that use expressions such as 'What a day!', it is not clear whether the speaker is expressing dislike or appreciation. The context and speaker's tone will convey the feeling.
3. The question words are placed initially.

How to convert a statement into an exclamatory sentence

• Statement - We had a good / bad time



Exclamatory - What a time we had!

• Statement - Her voice is very pleasant
Exclamatory - How pleasant her voice is!

• Statement - I used to hate science.
Exclamatory - How I hate science!

• Statement - We're in a mess.
Exclamatory - What a mess we're in!

• Statement - That is an enormous tree.
Exclamatory - What an enormous tree that is!

Sample conversation - Dialogue between two friends

- Ravi: Dinu, why are you so worried? How hard you have worked throughout the year. I am sure you are going to get a high percentage.
- Dinu: Who knows what the future holds!
- Ravi: But what a time it has been for you – studying from morning till night without bothering about food or rest.
- Dinu: I don't know. But, I can never forget what a mess it has been! The night before examination I was so tense. How much I hated history!
- Ravi: Don't worry! All is well that ends well. Let us hope for the best

Exercise 1

Frame commands / requests suitable to the given situations:

Example:

Teacher asking the students to finish their work. Finish your work immediately.

- (i) Mother asking son to study.
- (ii) You do not want to go to a movie.
- (iii) Teacher telling the students to stop making noise.
- (iv) There is delay in the execution of the order.
- (v) You are irritated by the repeated requests of a subordinate.

Exercise 2

Frame sentences with 'let' expressing the suggested feelings / ideas

- (i) All get success.
- (ii) Love among all
.....
- (iii) Do our duties sincerely
.....
- (iv) Not trouble anyone.
.....

Exercise 3

Complete the following sentences adding negative commands. Use the words given against each in parenthesis:

- (i) It is too hot. (not to go out)
- (ii) It is too costly. (not to purchase it)
- (iii) Exams are too close. (not to waste time)
- (iv) He must be sleeping. (not to go to his house)
- (v) I am resting. (not to make noise)

Exercise 4

Change the following statements into exclamatory sentences:

- (i) It's a beautiful garden.
- (ii) She is a pest, always keeps coming here.
- (iii) It was a surprise to see the Kohinoor.
- (iv) She dares talk to me like this.
- (v) They are so obstinate. They never listen to me.

Answers to Exercise 1

(These answers are only suggestive. Learners can frame their own also.)

- (i) Sunny, Why can't you sit down and study / Don't waste time, sit down and study.
- (ii) Please leave me alone. I don't want to go anywhere.
- (iii) Behave yourself. Stop making noise.
- (iv) Why so much delay. Hurry up.
- (v) Don't make me say again and again. Please go out and leave me alone.

Answers to Exercise 2

- (i) Let everyone succeed in his effort.
- (ii) Let there be love among all.
- (iii) Let everyone do one's duty sincerely.
- (iv) Let us not trouble anyone.

Answers to Exercise 3

- (i) Don't go out, it's too hot.
- (ii) Don't purchase it, it's too costly.
- (iii) Don't waste your time, the exams are too close.
- (iv) Don't go to his house, he must be sleeping.
- (v) Don't make noise, let me rest.

Answers to Exercise 4

- (i) What a beautiful garden it is.
- (ii) What a pest she is, always keeps coming.
- (iii) What a surprise it was to see the Kohinoor.
- (iv) How dare she talk to me like this.
- (v) How obstinate they are, never listen to me.