

## Examples of imperative sentences

### ► The second person imperative: bare infinitive

We can express **commands** in English by an **imperative sentence** made with the bare infinitive without *to*.

Examples: *Be careful. Open your books. Come here.*

**For the negative form we use *do not* or *don't*.**

*Don't be late. Do not sit down. Don't have so many bags.*

We can mention a person in the command, usually at the end of the sentence.

*Have something to eat, Greg.*

If we talk to more people, we use the pronoun *you* to make the distinction between them.

*You take these bags and you park the car. You wait here and I'll call the police.*

### ► The emphatic imperative: **do**

In writing it is not usual to use an exclamation mark. **If we put it at the end of an imperative sentence, it becomes more urgent.**

Examples: *Wait! Don't do that!*

**We can emphasize our request with *do*. It is common in polite requests.**

*Do sit down. Do be reasonable.*

On the other hand, ***do* before the imperative can express the irritation of the speaker.**

*Do be quiet. Do come on time.*

***You* before the command also shows the speaker's anger or even rudeness.**

*You get out of here. Don't you follow me.*

In a different context, however, it can show your positive emotions.

*Don't you be so sad.*

### ► The first person imperative: **let me, let us**

**In the first person we make it with *let + me* or *let + us*.**

Examples: *Let me do it for you. Let me see. - Let us go. Let's do some exercises.*

**For the negative we put *not* before the imperative.**

*Let us not be worried.*

In spoken English it is possible to use *don't* at the beginning of sentences.

*Don't let's be worried.*

## ► The polite requests: shall, will

**We can make a polite request in English if we put *shall we* or *will you* at the end of the imperative sentence.** This is used in positive sentences.

Examples: *Let's get started, shall we? Be careful, will you?*

If you want to be even more polite, you can use questions instead of commands.  
*Will you pass me the salt, please? Will you help me? Could you do it for me? Would you mind opening the window?*

**Test 1 - Third person** (Sit down | Don't sit down):

Exercise 1 rewrite sentences

**Test 2 - Third + first person** (Go | Don't go | Let | Let's not):

Exercise 2 change statements into imperatives

Exercise 3 change imperatives into statements

**Test 3 - Polite requests** (Shall we? Will you?):

Exercise 4 make these sentences more polite

**Test 4 - Emphatic** (Do try it | You do it):

Exercise 5 respond to situations

**Test 5 - Mixed forms:**

Exercise 6 jumbled sentences

**Pdf exercises (worksheets):**

- [Imperative exercises PDF](#) A printable test to download for free.

**Pdf grammar rules:**

- Printable [Imperative sentences PDF rules](#) to download for free.

Adapted from < <http://www.e-grammar.org/imperative/>>