

## IMPERATIVE

**Definition:** Imperatives are verbs used to give orders, commands, warning or instructions, and (if you use "please") to make a request. It is one of the three moods of an English verb (indicative, imperative and subjunctive).

For example:

- Give me that tape, please.

To make the imperative, use the infinitive of the verb without "to"

For example:

- Come here!
- Sit down!

To make a negative imperative, put "do not" or "don't" before the verb:

For example:

- Don't go!
- Do not walk on the grass.

You can also use "let's" before the verb if you are including yourself in the imperative. The negative of "let's" is "let's not".

For example:

- Let's stop now.
- Let's have some lunch.
- Let's not argue
- Let's not tell her about it.

### Orders

Adults do not usually give each other orders, unless they are in a position of authority. However, adults can give orders to children and to animals. The intonation of an order is important: each word is stressed, and the tone falls at the end of the sentence:

For example:

- Sit down now!  
\* "Sit", "down" and "now" are all stressed, and the tone falls on "now".

### Warnings

You can use the imperative to warn someone of danger. All the words in the warning are stressed, but the last word has a higher tone than the first word:

For example:

- Sit down now!  
\* "Sit", "down" and "now" are all stressed, and the tone falls on "now".
- Watch out!
- Look out!
- Don't cross!

### Advice

When you give advice using the imperative, the words are stressed normally.

For example:

- Don't tell him you're resigning now! Wait until Monday when he's in a better mood.
- Don't drink alcohol
- Don't eat heavy meals

### Requests

You can also use the imperative to make a request, but you should use a polite word before the verb:

For example:

- Please take a seat.
- Please wait here.
- Please hold the line.
- Please don't smoke here.

### Notes:

Note that an imperative sentence does not require a subject; the pronoun "you" is implied.

<http://www.englishgrammarsecrets.com/imperative/menu.php>

### (Imperative Exercises)

1. Complete the following instructions with these verbs: **go, take, turn, cross**.

#### Dialogue A

- Excuse me. How can I get to the bank?
- Go straight on, \_\_\_\_\_ the second turning on the left, then \_\_\_\_\_ at the pedestrian crossing, \_\_\_\_\_ past the post office and the bank is just next to it.

#### Dialogue B

- Good morning, can you tell me how I can go to the bus station?
- \_\_\_\_\_ up this road, \_\_\_\_\_ right at the corner, \_\_\_\_\_ along to the end of the street and you'll find it there.

2. Make the following instructions negative:

- |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| a. Write a letter    | Don't write a letter |
| b. Sit down          |                      |
| c. Clean the room    |                      |
| d. Make dinner       |                      |
| e. Call your mother  |                      |
| f. Put on your shoes |                      |

3. Make the following instructions affirmative:

- |                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| a. Don't send the parcel       | Send the parcel |
| b. Don't make your bed         |                 |
| c. Don't use the computer      |                 |
| d. Don't close the window      |                 |
| e. Don't take those books away |                 |
| f. Don't open the fridge       |                 |

4. Match the two columns to make instructions:

- |   |       |                          |                                 |
|---|-------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a | Feed  | <input type="checkbox"/> | have a drink                    |
| b | Wash  | <input type="checkbox"/> | put on your jacket; it's hot    |
| c | Don't | <input type="checkbox"/> | your bedroom                    |
| d | Do    | <input type="checkbox"/> | go to class; it's eight o'clock |
| e | Let's | <input type="checkbox"/> | the dishes                      |
| f | Tidy  | <input type="checkbox"/> | your homework                   |
| g | Don't | <input type="checkbox"/> | a the bird                      |
| h | Let's | <input type="checkbox"/> | leave the door open             |

**01.** Passe para a forma negativa a frase "Stand up!":

**02.** She was so upset she couldn't help \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) to complaining
- b) complain
- c) complaining
- d) complained
- e) complains

**03.** Would you mind \_\_\_\_\_ the door, please?

- a) to open
- b) open
- c) opening
- d) opens
- e) opening

**04.** She couldn't help \_\_\_\_\_ at you, honey!

- a) laugh
- b) to laugh
- c) laughed
- d) was laughing
- e) laughing

**05.** The Prime Minister said he was looking forward to \_\_\_\_\_ the President.

- a) seeing
- b) see
- c) sees
- d) to see
- e) saw

**06.** I gave up \_\_\_\_\_ soccer when I was 20.

- a) to play
- b) played

- c) playing
- d) plays
- e) play

**07.** He avoided \_\_\_\_\_ the same mistakes again.

- a) makes
- b) making
- c) to make
- d) made
- e) maked

**08.** I'm used to \_\_\_\_\_ about odd things.

- a) hear
- b) heard
- c) hears
- d) hearing
- e) am hearing

**09.** (UNESP) There's no hope of \_\_\_\_\_ survivors.

- a) to find
- b) finding
- c) founded
- d) finds
- e) find

**10.** (MACKENZIE) \_\_\_\_\_ at picture in art-galleries is a good pastime.

- a) Looking
- b) Look
- c) Looked
- d) To look
- e) To looking