

Grammar Expansion - Imperatives and Simple Present

Instructions: Work with your partner to complete the tasks below in order to review the grammar content of the week. Try NOT to use your notes or refer to the book!

Task 1: Imperatives

Imperative is a fancy word that means command or order. It's the structure we use in English when we tell people what to do! It is a very simple structure to form. All you need to do is use the **present** form of the verb. Consider these examples.

- **Go** away.
- **Walk** three blocks north and then **turn** right.
- **Tell** me what you need.

When we want to give a command in the negative, we just need to add the word **don't** before the verb. Transform the imperative sentences below into negative commands.

- **Don't go** that way.
- **Don't speak** in Spanish during the activity.
- **Don't sit** there.

We use imperatives to give orders, directions, advice, warnings, and requests. Write an original example for each of these functions below.

- **Orders:** **Stay quiet.**
- **Directions:** **Turn to the left.**
- **Advice:** **Don't do that.**
- **Warnings:** **Be careful.**
- **Requests:** **Take out the trash.**

Imperatives are simple to form but they can also sound a little direct or even rude. You can add the word please or you can use a suggestion instead.

Task 2: Suggestions

We normally associate suggestions with words like should but we have more ways to do it. You can use the word **let's** before the verb to make suggestions about what you and another person or group of people can do.

- Let's get out of here.
- Let's take out our textbooks.
- Let's be quiet.

Let's is a contracted form of the word **let** + **us** . We never use the full form though. It's always best to use the contraction.

If we want to make a negative suggestion with let's we just need to add **not** before the verb but this time we need to keep the verb in the **base** form. Write some examples using let's in the negative.

- **Let's not talk like this.**
- **Let's not do that.**

- **Let's not jump.**

Another soft and kind way to make suggestions is to use negative questions with the structure **Why don't you** or **Why don't we**. You can use these forms to give people advice or to make suggestions for you and another person. Write three original examples below.

- **Why don't you go to the beach?**
- **Why don't we play a video game?**
- **Why don't we go to eat pizza?**

Task 3: Present Simple Affirmative and Negative

The present simple is one of the most common grammatical structures in English. It is pretty easy to create but it has many uses. When I conjugate a verb in simple present I only have two options.

- For I, you, we, and they I use the base form of the verb.
- For **she, he, it** I need to add an S to the end of the base form.

For example I can say "We **like (like)** soccer and she **likes (like)** soccer too!"

It's very simple but there are some spelling rules to follow. Sometimes we just add **s**, other times we need to add **es**, and other times we need to make some changes to the base form and add **ies**. Write the rule for these two spelling variations and provide some examples.

- **ES: when the verb ends in -sh, -ch, -s, -x you add es // watches, kisses**
- **IES: when the verb ends in consonant + y you get rid of the y and add ies // flies, dries**

If I want to make a negative, I just need to add **don't** or **doesn't** before the verb. I use **don't** with I, you, we, and they, and I use **doesn't** with he, she, and it.

We use simple present to talk about habits, regular occurrences, customs, and routines. In this case it is common to use adverbs of frequency to indicate how often something occurs. Order these adverbs from most frequent to least frequent. Note, some of them are synonyms.

100%	always almost always Usually / frequently	Frequently Always Almost never Often Almost always Sometimes Never Rarely/Seldom Usually
50%	Often /sometimes	
0%	almost never / rarely/seldom frequently	

We usually put the adverbs of frequency **before** the verb. However, if it is the verb TO BE, we almost always put it **after** . Write two example sentences using adverbs of frequency with the verb to be and two with other verbs.

- **She always wakes up early.**
- **We almost never eat pizza.**
- **They are almost always going to the park.**
- **I am never going to do that.**

Task 4: Questions and Answers

There are two types of questions in English. The simplest type of question is called a **yes/no** question because it requires the listener to provide an affirmative or negative response. To make these questions I just need to use **do** or **does** , then the subject and then the verb in **base** form. Complete these questions with the correct word.

- **Do** you live in San José?
- **Does** she have a car?
- **Does** he always come late to class?
- **Do** we have to write the answer or only say it?

People need to answer a Yes/No question with Yes or No but if they only say a one word answer it can seem rude. Consider these examples.

- Do you like sports?
 - Yes. I do.
- Oh, great. Do you play soccer?
 - No. I don't
- Ok...do you play some other sport?
 - Yes.

To sound polite and interested in the conversation a person needs to answer with the words Yes or No plus a two word phrase consisting of **subject** and **do/doesn't** . Add polite short answers to the following questions.

- Do you eat meat?
 - Yes, **I do.**
- Does she take the bus in the morning?
 - No, **she doesn't.**
- Do we have to write the answers down?
 - Yes, **we do.**
- Does this bus stop at Walmart?
 - No, it **doesn't**

The other type of question is called WH Questions or **information** Questions because you have to answer with more information than yes or no. These questions have the same structure as Yes/No questions: DO/DOES + Subject + Verb in Base form. The only difference is we add a question word at the very beginning. How many questions can you make with the examples below?

- **What** do you **play** ?
- **How** do you **get there** ?
- **Where** do you **go** ?
- **When** do you **play basketball** ?
- **Who** do you **like** ?
- **How much** do you **spend** ?

Questions that ask about a subject are a little different. Consider these examples and add two more of your own.

- Who lives in this house?
- Who feeds the cat?
- Who wants ice cream?
- **Who dances at the studio?**
- **Who walks home alone?**