SENTENCES

3

Learning to make sentences is very essential for effective and proper communication. Without the knowledge of making grammatical correct sentences and questions, learners cannot speak or write properly. Hence, the purpose of communication cannot be fulfilled. In this unit, there are three lessons which discuss the different classification of sentences and rules of making questions.

	Time of completion	2 weeks

Lessons of the Unit:

Lesson-3.1:	Kinds of Sentences
Lesson-3.2:	Conditional Sentences
Lesson-3.3:	Asking Questions

Lesson-3.1 Kinds of Sentences

Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:

- realize the definition of sentence;
- analyze the classification of sentences;
- indentify the examples of different sentences;
- find out affirmative and negative sentence;
- transform affirmative to negative and negative to affirmative sentence;
- complete the exercise by yourself

Definition of sentence:

Sentence means some adorned words which express the full meaning. In other words, when some words sit together to express a particular meaning is called a sentence.

Notice the below given examples:

Prova is a good girl. - That is a statement.
Is Prova a good girl? - Something has been asked.
Always obey your teachers. - Something has been suggested.
May your wish come true. - A prayer has been said.

Oh! I can't believe my eyes. - A feeling of surprise has been expressed.

So, it can be noticed that, feelings can be expressed in different ways. Words should be decorated in different ways to express different feelings. Thus, many kinds of sentences are formed.

Among the above written sentences, the first sentence is a statement. Through the second sentence, a question has been asked. In the third sentence there is a suggestion. In the fourth sentence, there is a prayer and in the fifth sentence a feeling has been expressed.

Classification of sentences:

According to the meaning, there are five kinds of sentences. They are –

1. Assertive sentence

2. Interrogative sentence

3. Imperative sentence

4. Optative sentence

5. Exclamatory sentence

Let's discuss these five types of sentences in details.

1. Assertive sentence

The kinds of sentences which give any statement or confess or say something are called assertive sentences. As –

The sun rises in the east.

Rajib is a business major.

You should go home now.

The above mentioned sentences are giving statements or recognizing or attesting something. So, these are called assertive sentences.

2. Interrogative sentence

The sentences which ask a question about something or somebody are called interrogative sentences.

According to the rules, there is supposed to be a *what, who, whom, which, why, when, how* etc. to ask a question. As –

What is your name?

Who is the boy in red shirt?

Which one is your book?

In the above stated examples, some questions have been asked to find out some particular information. These are called interrogative sentences. Without using these "wh" (*what, who, whom, which, why, when etc*), there are some other rules to make meaningful questions as well. In the later lesson learners will get to know about asking questions in detail. It must be kept in the mind that after an interrogative sentence, there must be a Sign of Interrogation (?).

3. Imperative sentence

The types of sentences which express order, advice, request, prohibition etc. are called imperative sentences.

Sometimes imperative sentences do not show any subject. The subject can be hidden, but its presence can be understood. Example:

Open the door now. (Order)

Never tell a lie. (Suggestion)

Please pass me the water. (Request)

Among the above mentioned sentences, the first sentence expresses order, the second sentence expresses suggestion and the third sentence expresses request. These types of sentences are called imperative sentences.

4. Optative sentence

The kinds of sentences which express wish or prayer are called optative sentences. Optative sentences need a '*may*' in the beginning.

> *May all your dreams come true.*
>
> *May you obtain success in your every step.*
>
> *Long live our President.*

Among the above mentioned sentences, some express wish, some prayer, and some express blessings. So, each of the sentence is called an optative sentence.

5. Exclamatory sentence

The kinds of sentences which express feelings like happiness, sadness, amaze, hatred, sudden feelings are called exclamatory sentences.

> *What a beautiful flower it is!*
>
> *Alas! I am broke!*
>
> *What a fool he is!*
>
> *Oops! I made a great mistake.*

The above mentioned sentences are the examples of exclamatory sentences as these sentences express sudden reactions, emotions or expressions. These sentences need sign of exclamation (!).

The five kinds of sentences have been discussed above. Each kind of sentences can be divided into two parts as well. One of them is Assertive and another one is negative. As –

> *I am reading.*

This is an Affirmative Sentence. An incident has been admitted.

However, if it is said like –

> *I am not reading.*

Here, an incident has been denied. This is a Negative Sentence.

Assertive or positive sentences are called affirmative Sentences and denial sentences are called negative sentences.

A sentence can be transformed into a negative one from a positive sentence if needed. However, from the above mentioned sentences, all of the sentences can be transformed except the exclamatory sentence. It means each of them has two different features. As –

a. Affimative

b. Negative

Affirmative and **Negative** sentences are shown below:

1. Aff.   This is a school.

    Neg.   This is not a school.

2. Aff.   She should be grateful.

    Neg.   She should not be grateful.

3. Aff.   You are a fool.

    Neg.   You are not a fool.

4. Aff.   I have books.

    Neg.   I have no books.

5. Aff.   Mamun has a ball.

    Neg.   Mamun has no ball./ They do not have a ball.

6. Aff.   They will work hard.

    Neg.   They will not work hard.

7. Aff.   Maruf had a little puppy.

    Neg.   Maruf had no little puppy./ Maruf did not have a little puppy.

8. Aff.   He has a magic box.

    Neg.   He does not have a magic box. / He has no magic box.

9. Aff.   I can do the math.

    Neg.   I can not do the math.

10. Aff.   Lopa should apologize.

    Neg.   Lopa should not apologize.

11. Aff.   You may go there.

    Neg.   You may not go there.

12. Aff.   I must work hard to attain my goal.

    Neg.   I must not work hard to attain my goal.

13. Aff.   We have to go for the practice every weekend.

    Neg.   We do not have to go for the practice every weekend.

14. Aff.   I play cricket every day.

    Neg.   I do not play cricket every day.

15. Aff.   Shubho used to go to the park everyday.

    Neg.   Shubho did not use to go to the park everyday.

So, it can be seen that, by adding 'not, no, do not, does not and did not' one can transform affirmative sentences into negative ones. While making negative sentences, a 'no' should be put before a noun and in other places "not" take place.

Summary

Sentence means some adorned words which express the full meaning. In other words, when some words sit together to express a particular meaning is called a sentence. Sentences can be divided into five different categories – assertive, interrogative, imperative, optative and exclamatory. There are some specific rules and punctuation marks to form accurate and meaningful sentences. Some sentences need full stop at the end, some need interrogative mark and some need exclamation mark. These five different categories of sentences can also be divided into two types – affirmative and negative. Thus, learning to form accurate sentences is very important to communicate properly.

Lesson-3.2   Conditional Sentences

Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:
- Understand conditional sentences;
- Make proper conditional sentences;
- Use conditional sentences in your daily conversation;
- Complete the exercise by yourself.

Definition of conditional sentence:

A conditional sentence is a type of sentence that tells a condition and the outcome of that condition taking place. A dependent clause and an independent clause join together to make a Conditional sentence.

Conditional sentences are declarations which discuss known factors or hypothetical situations and their consequences. Complete conditional sentences contain a conditional clause or dependent clause (if-clause) and an independent clause or the consequence. As –

> *If it rains today, I won't go tomorrow.*
> *I would help the poor if I were a king.*
> *Water boils when it reaches 100 degrees.*

In the above stated sentences *if* and *when* create hypothetical situations and their consequences. In the first sentences, *if* makes a situation where going to class depends on raining. The second sentences create a hypothetical situation where the speaker has to be king to help the poor and there might not be any chance to become a king. In the third sentence a consequence (*water boils*) has been told after a certain incident (*when it reaches 100 degrees*).

Classification of conditional sentence:

There are four different types of conditional sentences in English. Each of them expresses a different degrees of chance or possibility that a situation will occur or would have occurred under certain conditions. They are –

i.   Zero conditional sentences
ii. First conditional sentences
iii. Second conditional sentences
iv. Third conditional sentences

i.   Zero conditional sentences

Zero conditional sentences depict general truths or situations in which one thing always depends on or causes another one. When a zero conditional is used, it indicates a general truth rather than a specific case. As –

> *When people smoke cigarettes, their health suffers.*
> *If you heat ice, it melts.*

Note:
- Zero conditionals always take present indefinite tense rather than future indefinite tense in both clauses. As –

"When people smoke cigarettes, their health will suffer." – This will be an incorrect sentence.

- *If* and *when* can be used interchangeably in zero conditional sentences as the outcome will always be the same. As –
  If people smoke cigarettes, their health suffers.

ii. First conditional sentences

First conditional sentences indicate situations in which the outcome is expected (but not certain) to occur in the future. As –

If you don't study hard, you get a poor grade.
If you come, I'll go.

Note:

- Present indefinite tense is used in the subordinate clause (if clause) and future indefinite tense in the principal clause (the clause that indicate the expected or probable outcome). This is how it is expressed that under a certain condition (as expressed in the subordinate or if clause), a certain result *will* probably happen in the future. As –
  If rain stops, I'll go for a walk.

 Here, the first half of the sentence (*If rain stops*) is in present indefinite tense and the later half (*I'll go for a walk)* is in future indefinite tense.

- Use the zero conditional sentence structure rule (present indefinite + present indefinite) only when a particular outcome is guaranteed. If the result is probable, use the first conditional sentence structure rule (present indefinite + future indefinite).

Incorrect: *If you will come, I'll go.*
Correct: *If you come, I'll go.*

iii. Second conditional sentences

Second conditional sentences are used to express results which are completely impractical or will *not* probably happen in the future. As –

If I were a king, I would help the poor.
If I had a million taka, I would build a white palace.

Note:

- Second conditional sentences need past indefinite tense in the subordinate clause (if clause) and an auxiliary modal verb (would, could, should, might) in the principal clause (which indicates the impractical or improbable result).
  If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.

 Here, the first half of the sentence (*If I were a bird*) is in past indefinite tense and the later half which is a principal clause (*I would fly in the sky)* has a 'would' in it.

- While making a second conditional sentence, use past indefinite tense in the subordinate clause.

Incorrect: *If I have a million taka, I would build a white palace.*
Correct: *If I had a million taka, I would build a white palace.*

- Use a modal auxiliary verb (would, could, should, might) in the principal clause when using the second conditional sentence structure to express the improbability that the outcome will actually happen.

Incorrect: *If I were a king, I will help the poor.*

Correct: *If I were a king, I would help the poor.*

iv. Third conditional sentences

Third conditional sentences refer to explain that present circumstances would be different if something different had happened in the past. In other words, third conditional sentences indicate situations which did not occur in the past, so the outcome did not happen either. As –

> *If you had come earlier, you could have met the Chairman.*

> *If you hadn't left the job, you would have a car by now.*

These sentences indicate a condition that had probability to happen, but did not actually happen in the past. In the first sentence, somebody had the probability to meet the Chairman if s/he could come earlier. However, the person could not manage to come earlier and thus the other outcome did not happen either.

Note:
- Third conditional sentences need the past perfect structure (had + past participle) in the subordinate clause (if-clause). The modal auxiliary (would, could, should etc.) + have + past participle in the principal or main clause expresses the hypothetical situation that *could* have happened. As –
  > *If you had worked hard, you could get the reward.*
- In the third conditional sentences, a modal auxiliary verb does not take place in the subordinate clause (if-clause).

Incorrect: *If you would have come earlier, you could have met the Chairman.*

Correct: *If you had come earlier, you could have met the Chairman.*

- The third conditional sentence indicates a circumstance that could have only happened in the past if a certain condition had been completed. That's why these sentences take the modal auxiliary verb + have + the past participle.

Incorrect: *If I had completed my assignment, I could go outside to play.*

Correct: *If I had completed my assignment, I could've gone outside to play.*

Exceptions and special cases when using conditional sentences

➢ **Use of the future indefinite tense in the subordinate clause (if-clause)**

Usually the future indefinite tense should be used only in the principal clause. One exception is when the action in the subordinate clause (if-clause) will take place after the action in the main clause. As –

> *If aspirin will ease my headache, I will take a couple tonight.*

The action in the if-clause is the aspirin easing the headache, which will take place only after the speaker takes them later that night.

➢ **"Were to" in the if-clause**

The verb phrase "*were to*" is sometimes used in conditional sentences when the probable or improbable result is particularly absurd or unimaginable. In this case, "*were to*" is used to place emphasis on this probable outcome. As –

> *If I were to be sick, I would miss another day of work.*
> *If she were to be late again, she would have to have a conference with the manager.*

If the rent were to have been a penny more, they would not have been able to pay it.

Note:

- The emphatic "were to" can be used to describe hypothetical situations in the present, future, and past.

➢ **Punctuating conditional sentences**

Use a comma after the subordinate clause (if-clause) when the subordinate clause (if-clause) precedes the principal clause. As –

If I were a bird, I would fly in the sky.

If the principal clause precedes the subordinate clause (if-clause), no punctuation is necessary. As –

I would fly in the sky if I were a bird.

Summary

As the name tells, a conditional sentence is a type of sentence that tells a condition and the outcome of that condition taking place. A dependent clause and an independent clause join together to make a conditional sentence. Conditional sentences are declarations which discuss known factors or hypothetical situations and their consequences. Complete conditional sentences contain a conditional clause or dependent clause (if-clause) and an independent clause or the consequence. Conditional sentences are divided into different categories. These types of sentences usually take a comma after the subordinate clause (if-clause) when the subordinate clause (if-clause) precedes the principal clause. If the principal clause precedes the subordinate clause (if-clause), no punctuation is necessary.

Lesson-3.3 **Asking Question**

Objectives:

At the end of this lesson, you will be able to:
- learn the rules of asking questions;
- ask questions properly to communicate with others;
- learn the examples of different types of questions;
- complete the exercise by yourself.

Asking question

Learning how to ask questions properly is very important. There are different types of questions like – direct questions, indirect questions, tag questions etc.

How to ask direct questions

Direct questions are the most common type of question in English. These types of questions are asked to get yes/no answers or concrete answers.
- This formula is known as QUASM.

*Qu*estion Word + *A*uxiliary + *S*ubject + *M*ain Verb + (extensions) + ?

As –

> *When are you going tomorrow?*
> *Do you like meat?*
> *How long have you been working on this project?*
> *Where is the boy going alone?*
> *Would you like a cup of tea?*

Yes/No questions

Yes/No questions refer to simple questions which are asked to receive either a 'yes' or a 'no' as a response. Yes/No questions do not use question words and always begin with the auxiliary verb.

- This formula is known as ASM.

*A*uxiliary + *S*ubject + *M*ain Verb + (extentions) + ?

As –

> *Does he live in Dhaka?*
> *Have you ever been to Cox's Bazar?*
> *Is she coming to our house?*

Subject and object questions

> *Ritu likes playing cricket.*

What does Jason like playing? (Answer: *cricket*)

Who likes playing golf? (Answer: *Ritu*)

In the first question, a question has been asked about the object. When asking about the object, we use direct question construction beginning with a question word followed by the auxiliary verb.

'Wh' + auxiliary + subject + verb?

Who does he like most among his friends?

In the second question, a question has been asked for the subject of the action. While asking subject questions, we do not use the auxiliary verb. The 'Wh' question word plays the role of the subject in the question.

'Wh' + (auxiliary) + verb + object?

Who does not understand this calculation?

Note:

- Present Indefinite Tense or past Indefinite Tense do not take the auxiliary in positive sentence structure. As –

Who enjoys watching films?

Who is coming to the field tomorrow?

- Common question forms for subject questions:

Which

Which team will win this time?

What kind of

What kind of cheese is blue?

What sort of

What sort of coffee is cheaper?

Who

Who wants to come with us?

Tag questions

Another type of common question in English is the tag question. Tag questions are used to confirm information that you already know or you think you know. This type of question is used in conversation and when checking that you have understood something or to emphasize on an issue.

A tag question is formed by making a statement followed by a comma and the opposite (positive > negative, negative > positive) form of the appropriate auxiliary verb. If the statement is

positive, the tag question will be negative. If the question is negative, the tag question will be positive. As –

>*You're going there, aren't you?*
>*He's gone to office, hasn't he?*
>*You didn't do the math by yourself, did you?*

In the above written sentences, there are tag questions at the later halves of the sentences. The first two sentences are positive, that is why the tag question part in negative. And the last sentence the first half is negative and thus the later half is positive.

Indirect questions

Indirect questions are asked when we want to be more polite. They take the same formula of asking direct questions but at first some introductory phrases (*do you know, can you tell, I was wondering* etc.) are used and sometimes they make a positive statement rather than an actual question. The two phrases with the question word or 'if' is connected if there is a yes/no question. Construction Chart:

Introductory phrase + question word (or if) + positive sentence
As –

>*I was wondering if you know the way to the nearest restaurant.*
>*Do you know when the next train leaves the platform?*

- Here are some of the most common phrases used for asking indirect questions.

Do you know...
I wonder/was wondering...
Can you tell me...
I'm not sure...
I don't know...

As –

>*I wonder when Priya will come.*
>*Can you tell me where the lab is?*
>*I'm not sure what he wants to do.*
>*I don't know if he is coming.*

Summary

Learning how to ask questions properly is very important. There are different types of questions like – direct questions, indirect questions, tag questions etc. There are some interesting formulas to make questions. Most of the questions take an interrogative mark at the end. However, there are some questions like indirect questions which do not take interrogative marks.

1. What is a sentence? Give the classification of sentences and give examples.
2. Write down five conditional sentences.
3. Transform the sentences without changing the meaning.
   - i. Keya can write faster than me. (Negative)
   - ii. Everyone found the match interesting. (Negative)
   - iii. Iron is not a light metal. (Affirmative)
   - iv. Antora is the tallest girl in the office. (Negative)
   - v. Oh! What a beautiful flower this is! (Affirmative)
4. Complete the sentences
   - i. I'm right,_____?
   - ii. Shut up, _____?
   - iii. Don't forget, _____?
   - iv. Move a bit, _____?
   - v. Let's go for a walk,_____?
   - vi. You never say what you are going, _____?
   - vii. There is little we can do about it, _____?
   - viii. Somebody wanted a pizza, _____?
   - ix. No one loves a liar, _____?
   - x. We are not going there, _____?

5. Ask questions for the underlined words.

   i. He ran <u>across the street</u>.
   _____?
   ii. She said it <u>very politely</u>.
   _____?

   iii. I spent my vacation <u>in Cox's Bazar</u>.
   _____?
   iv. I play cricket <u>two times a week</u>.
   _____?
   v. <u>My sister</u> teaches me math.
   _____?

   vi. My sister teaches me <u>math</u>.

   _____?
   vii. They gave up <u>on Monday</u>.

_____?
viii. They started <u>the walk</u> on Monday morning.
_____?
ix. <u>The kids</u> went to the playground.
_____?

x. They met <u>at the market</u>.
_____?
xi. He did <u>his homework</u>.
_____?
xii. The teacher entered into <u>the classroom</u>.
_____?

xiii. <u>The musicians</u> came from Sylhet.
_____?
xiv. They worked <u>carefully</u>.
_____?
xv. The shirt is <u>1500 tk</u>.
_____?

Answer

2.
i. I cannot write as fast as Keya.
ii. No one found the match uninteresting.
iii. Iron is a heavy metal.
iv. No other girl in the office is as tall as Antora.
v. This is a beautiful flower.

Answer 3.

i. Ain't I?
ii. Will you?
iii. Will you?
iv. Will you?
v. Shall we?
vi. Do you?
vii. Is there?
viii. Did they?
ix. Do they?
x. Are we?

Answer 4.

i. Where did he run?

ii.   How did she say it?
iii.   Where did I spend my vacation?
iv.   How often I play cricket?
v.   Who teaches me math?
vi.   What did my sister teach me?
vii. When did they give up?
viii. What did they start on Monday morning?
ix.   Who went to the playground?
x.   Where did they meet me?
xi.   What did he do?
xii. Where did the teacher enter into?
xiii. Where did the musicians come from?
xiv. How did they work?
xv.   How much is the shirt?