

## Types of sentences

There are four main categories of sentences.

**Statements** give information. These sentences end with a full stop.

**Example:** Becky loves cooking. The subject comes before the verb.

**Questions** ask for information. These sentences end with a question mark.

**Example:** What does Becky love? The question word comes before the subject.

**Note:** *Who, what, whose* and *which* are interrogative pronouns that we use in questions. *Why, where* and *when* are other common question words.

**Commands** give orders, instructions or requests. These sentences end with a full stop or an exclamation mark.

**Example:** Bake a cake. The subject is not always stated because it is understood who the subject is.

**Exclamations** express feelings or emotions.

**Example:** What a beautiful cake ! These sentences end with an exclamation mark.

1. State what type of sentence has been used in each of the following examples. The first one has been done for you.

- Will you walk home with me? question
- Oranges are half price! \_\_\_\_\_
- Wash your hands before you eat. \_\_\_\_\_
- The sea is calm tonight. \_\_\_\_\_
- Where have all the flowers gone? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Choose the correct question words from the margin to complete the questions below.

- \_\_\_\_\_ will pass his exams?
- \_\_\_\_\_ house was painted green?
- \_\_\_\_\_ was Sam doing?
- \_\_\_\_\_ did you not go to school?
- \_\_\_\_\_ bicycle is this?



### Note

Exclamations are often used in advertisements and notices.

Which  
Who  
Why  
What  
Whose

## Types of sentences to show mood

In English the *mood* of a sentence tells us about the attitude of the speaker or writer. There are three main moods that we can use when we speak or write.

The **indicative mood** makes a statement or asks a question.

**Examples:** "Becky loves cooking." (statement)  
"Does Becky love cooking?" (question)

The **imperative mood** is used in an instruction, command or request.

**Examples:** "Switch on the oven first, Becky." (instruction)  
"Bake a cake, Becky!" (command)  
"Please bake a cake, Becky." (request)

The **subjunctive mood** expresses a wish or a desire.

**Examples:** "If only I could bake like Becky!" (wish or desire)  
"I hope you will be famous one day, Becky." (wish)



### Note

In the imperative mood a command often ends with an exclamation mark. A request often begins with *please*.

1. State whether the mood is indicative, imperative or subjunctive in each of the sentences in the table below.

Sentences	Mood
a) Why is the dog barking?	a)
b) The dog is hungry.	b)
c) Give the dog a bone!	c)
d) Please get it from the kitchen.	d)
e) I wish you would get it.	e)

2. Identify the mood of each sentence in the following letter.



I decided to write to the newspaper because I am so frustrated.

- (a) ( ) Why don't we have running water in our township? (b) ( ) Answer this question!  
(c) ( ) I wish the council would budget for new pipes. (d) ( ) Please join me when I take a petition to our councillor on Friday. (e) ( )



### Hint

Look for clues in the punctuation.

3. Identify the type of sentence and the mood of each sentence.

	Type of sentence	Mood
a) Do your homework now.		
b) Is Sam playing soccer today?		
c) It is raining very hard.		