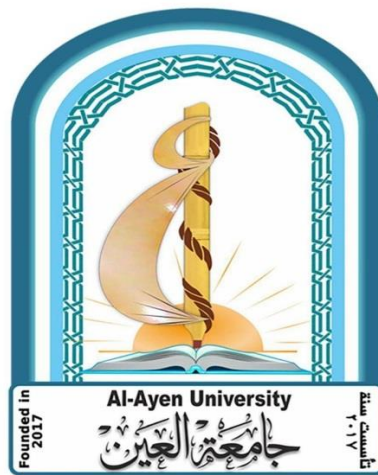


Fourth lecturer – second stage Petroleum engineering

Subject: English language

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The 4 English Sentence Types

(Do not confuse with the 4 types of sentence structure.)

There are four types of English sentence, classified by their purpose:

- **declarative sentence** (statement)
- **interrogative sentence** (question)
- **imperative sentence** (command)
- **exclamative sentence** (exclamation)

Sentence types are sometimes called **clause types**.

	form	function	example sentence (clause)	final punctuation
1	declarative	statement: It tells us something	John likes Mary.	.
2	interrogative	question: It asks us something	Does Mary like John?	?
3	imperative	command: It tells us to do something	Stop! Close the door.	! or .
4	exclamative	exclamation: It expresses surprise	What a funny story he told us!	!

(form = structure / function = job)

1. Declarative Sentence (statement)

Declarative sentences make a **statement**. They tell us something. They give us information, and they normally end with a full-stop/period.

The usual word order for the declarative sentence is:

- subject + verb...

Declarative sentences can be positive or negative. Look at these examples:

positive	negative
I like coffee.	I do not like coffee.

We watched TV last night.	We did not watch TV last night.
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Declarative sentences are the most common type of sentence.

2. Interrogative Sentence (question)

Interrogative sentences ask a **question**. They ask us something. They want information, and they always end with a question mark.

The usual word order for the interrogative sentence is:

- (*wh-word* +) auxiliary + subject + verb...

Interrogative sentences can be positive or negative. Look at these examples:

positive	negative
Do you like coffee?	Don't you like coffee?
Why did you go?	Why didn't you go?

3. Imperative Sentence (command)

Imperative sentences give a **command**. They tell us to do something, and they end with a full-stop/period (.) or exclamation mark/point (!).

The usual word order for the imperative sentence is:

- base verb...

Note that there is usually no subject—because the subject is understood, it is *YOU*.

Imperative sentences can be positive or negative. Look at these examples:

positive	negative
Stop!	Do not stop!
Give her coffee.	Don't give her coffee.

4. Exclamative Sentence (exclamation)

Exclamative sentences express strong emotion/surprise—an **exclamation**—and they always end with an exclamation mark/point (!).

The usual word order for the exclamative sentence is:

- *What* (+ adjective) + noun + subject + verb
- *How* (+ adjective/adverb) + subject + verb

Look at these examples:

- What a liar he is!
- What an exciting movie it was!
- How he lied!
- How exciting the movie was!