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MODERN ENGLISH

EXERCISES
FOR
NON-NATIVE
SPEAKERS

Part II

SENTENCES &
COMPLEX STRUCTURES

Second Edition

second edition

MODERN ENGLISH

**exercises for
non-native speakers**

**PART II:
sentences and complex structures**

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An adverb may precede the imperative verb:

Always open that door slowly.

Don't **ever** open that door.

Formulas of politeness such as please, will (or would) you please often accompany requests.

Change the following sentences to imperative form.

EXAMPLE: a. You must cook the meat very slowly.

Cook the meat very slowly.

b. You shouldn't do your homework when you're tired.

Don't do your homework when you're tired.

c. We should take a break soon.

Let's take a break soon.

1. You must never leave this door unlocked.

2. You will first go to the post office and then to the bank.

3. We must not encourage him to believe we can help him.

4. You must always obey your father even when he seems too strict.

5. To get the right color, you must mix equal parts of red and blue.

6. We shouldn't waste so much time with small details.

7. To get there, you must turn right at the bridge.

8. You shouldn't ever listen to him.

9. You will deliver this package at once.

10. You and I should take care of this right away. We shouldn't wait any longer.

4. Mr. Smith doesn't like his aunt.
He won't invite her to his wedding.
-
-
-

5. The young man needs a car for his work.
He is going to buy one right away.
-
-
-

6. The young man doesn't need a car for his work.
He is going to buy one anyhow.
-
-
-

7. The new student was very shy.
The teacher didn't call on him.
-
-
-

8. The new student was very shy.
The teacher called on him several times anyhow.
-
-
-

1-4

JOINING SENTENCES WITH CONJUNCTIVE ADVERBS

Most conjunctive adverbs are found in formal writing rather than in informal conversation. Some of the more common conjunctive adverbs are listed below.

<i>Addition</i>	moreover, in addition, besides, furthermore
<i>Condition</i>	otherwise
<i>Concession</i>	however, still, nevertheless
<i>Result</i>	therefore, consequently, thus

4. The large picture looks good over the sofa, but the small one _____.
-
5. This room isn't well lit, but that one _____.
-
6. The green dress can be washed by hand, but the blue one _____.
-
7. Her father liked her new boyfriend, but her mother _____.
-
8. I can ice skate, but my friend _____.
-
9. Her sister will bring the children, but her brother _____.
-
10. This pot leaks, but that one _____.
-
11. She has never been to Europe but her children _____.
-
12. The salesgirls in this store are helpful, but those in the next store _____.
-

1-6

PARALLEL CONSTRUCTION

Words, phrases, or clauses joined by the coordinate conjunctions **and**, **or**, **but** have *the same grammatical form* (parallelism).

Her long illness and slow recovery made her very despondent. (two nouns joined by **and**).

She doesn't like to **get up in the morning** or to **go to bed at night**. (two infinitive phrases joined by **or**)

He told us that **his wife had been in an accident** but that **luckily she had not been hurt**. (two **that** clauses joined by **but**)

Parallel forms are also required with the paired coordinate conjunctions (correlatives)—**both . . . and**, **(n)either . . . (n)or**, **not only . . . but also**.

They are **either at their country home or at the beach**.

Elements contrasted with **not** are likewise put in parallel form.

He always does **what he wants to do**, **not what he should do**.

1-7 “DANGLING” CONSTRUCTIONS

Many introductory structures that do not contain their own “subjects” within them depend on the subject of the main clause for their agent (the “doer” of the action expressed by the structure).

Preparing breakfast in too much of a hurry, she burned the toast.

After eating dinner, she cleared the table.

To study properly, a person should have good light.

Fearless as a youth, he became more timid as he grew older.

At the age of seven, he came to the United States.

Such introductory elements usually correspond to the predicate parts of simple sentences. If the subjects that follow cannot serve as their agents, the introductory structures are considered as “dangling,” that is, left hanging without a specific word to attach it to.

Dangling

Preparing breakfast in too much of a hurry, the toast was burned.

After eating dinner, the table was cleared.

Certain introductory participial elements have their own “subjects” and therefore do not depend on the subject of the sentence for their agent.

The floods having ruined their crops, many farmers in the area decided to give up their farms.

Make whatever changes are necessary to correct sentences that contain “dangling” introductory elements. (Some sentences are correct.)

EXAMPLE: Believing she had done the right thing, no one could convince her that she was wrong.

Believing she had done the right thing, she could not be convinced that she was wrong.

(The subject, *she*, is the agent of *believing*.)

or Because she believed she had done the right thing, no one could convince her that she was wrong.

(The *because* clause now contains its own subject, *she*.)

1. While waiting for the doctor, there are numerous magazines you can read.

2. When ready, take the meat out of the oven immediately.

3. To work efficiently, frequent oiling of the machine is required.
