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Tense and Voice

Basically, the **verb** is for expressing action or a state of being. However, the functions of the verb go beyond that. It tells us the tense, voice, and mood of the sentence too.

The **tense** of a sentence tells us when an action occurred or will occur.

Examples: Dan jumped into the ditch and hurt his leg.
He will not do that again.

The **voice** of a sentence shows the relationship between the verb and the subject. The **active voice** shows that the subject is doing the action whereas the **passive voice** shows that the subject is receiving the action.

Examples: The puppy bit me. (active voice)
I was bitten by the puppy. (passive voice)



A. Change the voice in the following sentences. Keep to the same tenses.

1. The children picked the ripe apples.

2. The police officer warned the careless driver.

3. The books were borrowed by Sue for the project.

4. We will decorate the classroom for the party.

5. Darrel left the puppy in the backyard.



Mood

The **mood** of a sentence tells us in what manner the verb is communicating the action.

The **indicative mood** is used to make a basic statement or ask a question.

Example: We'll have pizza for lunch at school tomorrow.

The **imperative mood** is used to make a command or request.

Example: Please pass the salt to me.

The **subjunctive mood** is used to set up a hypothetical case or express a wish.

Example: I wish I could fly.



B. Indicate the mood in each of the following sentences. Write “IN” for indicative mood, “IM” for imperative mood, and “SUB” for subjunctive mood.

1. Can you tell your sister not to disturb us when we are working? _____
2. It is a group project that accounts for 30% of the final score. _____
3. Go to the library to borrow some books for the project. _____
4. Matt hasn't finished compiling the data yet. _____
5. How I wish we had more time for the project. _____

C. Write a sentence of your own using each type of mood.



1. Indicative Mood

2. Imperative Mood

3. Subjunctive Mood

More on the Subjunctive Mood

We use the **subjunctive mood** to indicate a wish, a hypothetical case, a suggestion, or a demand.

Examples: If I were the coach, I would not let him close the game.
(Unfortunately, I am not the coach so there was no way I could stop him being the closer.)
If he were with us, it would be a lot more fun.
(But he wasn't with us.)
The teacher suggested that he think about it before getting back to her.
Her mother demanded that she stay home.

Note the use of "were" in indicating wishes and hypothetical cases, and the base verb in making suggestions or demands.



D. Change the verbs where necessary to reflect the subjunctive mood.

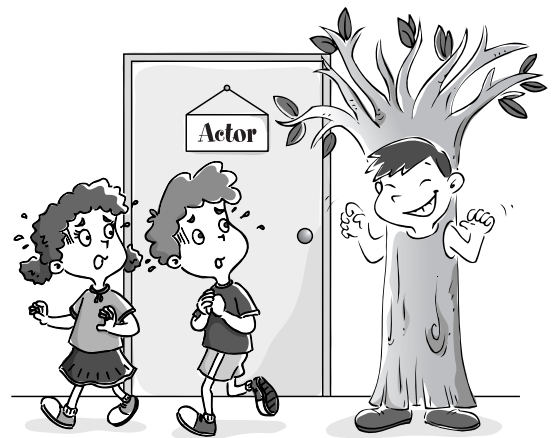
1. How I wish Jane is here with us.

2. We looked at him as though he is a monster.

3. If I am you, I will accept the offer right away.

4. Her parents demanded that she paid for the repair.

5. If Sam is the organizer, the show would be much better.



E. Read the following groups of sentences. Write a sentence in the subjunctive mood to show the main idea of each group.

Example: We all wanted Ted to play in the game. Unfortunately, Ted was sick and could not play. With Ted, we would have a better chance of winning.

If Ted were to play in the game, we would have a better chance of winning.



1. Valerie was busy with her project. It was past midnight but there was still a lot to do. Valerie’s mother told her to leave it until the next day.

2. Mr. Sherwood wants to stay fit. The doctor tells him to get up earlier and exercise for half an hour before going to work.

3. Jeremy was rude to Patricia. The teacher knew about it. She wanted Jeremy to apologize to Patricia.

4. At the party, Janet socialized with everyone that came her way. She appeared more like the hostess than a guest.

5. Julie did rather poorly in comprehension. Mrs. Brown told her that if she wanted to have any improvement, she needed to read more.

6. Debbie went to an amusement park with her parents. She wanted to ride on the roller-coaster, but her father told her that she was not tall enough. She was very disappointed.
