

**ONTARIO PUBLIC  
SCHOOL  
GRAMMAR**

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Ontario public school grammar by Various

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**VARIOUS**

**ONTARIO PUBLIC  
SCHOOL  
GRAMMAR**



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# ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL GRAMMAR



AUTHORIZED BY THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION  
FOR ONTARIO.

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# PUBLIC SCHOOL GRAMMAR

## PART I

### STRUCTURE OF THE SENTENCE

#### CHAPTER I

##### THE SENTENCE

*Examine the following groups of words:*

1. The boy hit the dog.
2. The top of the box.
3. The stone broke the window.

In the first group and in the third, a statement is made about some person or thing. In the second group no statement is made about any person or thing.

*Examine the groups of words in the following exercise, and decide in each case whether the group makes a statement about some person or thing:*

1. The lion saw a mouse.
2. Poor Cinderella had to stay at home.
3. Only a glass slipper.
4. Stood by the fire crying.

A group of words such as (1) or (2), which makes a statement, that is, expresses a complete thought about anything, is called a **sentence**.

#### EXERCISE 1

*Which of the following groups of words are sentences?*

1. I have finished the lesson.
2. The house at the corner.
3. Noble, nameless, English heart.
4. Over the waves its warning rang.
5. All possibility of deliverance from this

condition. 6. Having now secured my habitation, I had a great desire to make a more perfect discovery of the island.  
7. On the banks of this brook.

## DEFINITION

**A sentence is a group of words expressing a complete thought.**

## CHAPTER II

## ASSERTIVE AND INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES

*Compare the following groups of words, noting which are sentences:*

1. The man was coming to the house.
2. The man is opening the door.
3. The man at the door.
4. Was the man coming to the house?
5. Is the man opening the door?

Notice that groups (1), (2), (4), and (5) are all sentences, because each expresses a complete thought about the man.

Notice also that group (3) is not a sentence, because it does not express a complete thought.

Notice further that groups (4) and (5) express thought in a different form from (1) and (2), in that they do not make statements or tell anything about the man, but ask questions about him.

*Decide which of the following sentences make statements and which ask questions:*

1. The boy has gone home.
2. Who broke the window?
3. Is our new ball lost?
4. This is a sweet apple.

A sentence such as (1) or (4), which makes a statement about any person or thing, is called an **assertive** or a **declarative sentence**.

A sentence such as (2) or (3), which asks a question about any person or thing, is called an **interrogative sentence**.

## EXERCISE 2

## A

*Tell which of the following sentences are assertive and which interrogative, and why:*

1. What would you have him do? 2. Could you not give me some employment? 3. At the church door stood an old soldier. 4. Under this shelter the birds build their nests. 5. Shall we send you more paper?

Notice that an interrogative sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a question mark.

## B

*Change the following from assertive to interrogative sentences:*

1. The boy is at his desk.
2. The horse has run down the street.
3. Mary was reading her book.
4. John had studied his lesson.
5. The inspector was here yesterday.

## DEFINITIONS

1. An assertive sentence is one that is used in making a statement.
2. An interrogative sentence is one that is used in asking a question.

## CHAPTER III

## THE IMPERATIVE SENTENCE

*Examine carefully the following sentences:*

1. John is coming to the house.
2. Is John coming to the house?
3. John, come to the house.