Grammar revision

Hyphens, dashes and imperative (bossy) verbs

Using Hyphens



A **hyphen** (-) is a punctuation mark that is used to join words or parts of words to clarify their meaning.

Semi-colon Right-angled Co-ordinates A man eating shark or a man-eating shark.

Can you think of any others?



Using Dashes

We can use **dashes** like colons and semi-colons.

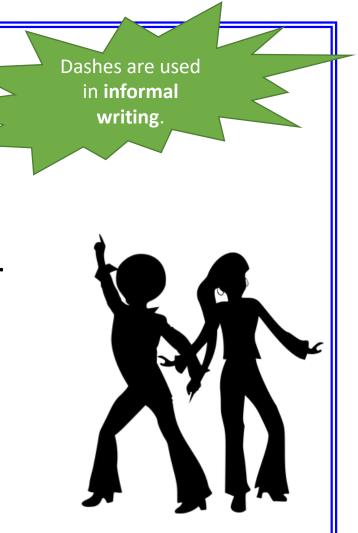
They indicate grammatical breaks.

They are used in informal writing — the rules are less precise.

I was very distracted — your miming was off-putting.

You have been unlucky — your change of partners is hard.

You pulled off great footwork - it was spot on.



To link two clauses: replace the full stop with a **dash** and then use a lower case letter to start the second main clause.

Imperative verbs are sometimes known as bossy verbs.

They are **verbs** which tell you what to do.

They are often seen at the beginning of a sentence and create a command.

Examples of **imperative verbs** include: eat, tidy, write and walk.



Imperative verbs are used when writing instructions.



Separate the egg whites into a bowl and whisk until they form white peaks.

Which words are imperatives?





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Which words are imperatives?



Did you get them right?



Your task: convert these sentences into commands using imperative verbs:

- 1. If you carry on down the road
- 2. Please could you find some help!
- 3. You might want to break some eggs
- 4. Maybe you could twist the cap off of the bottle
- 5. One must behave in school
- 6. She should have kept it out of reach of children.

I have done the first one for you:

1. Carry on down the road – you'll see a sign at the end.





Answers

- 1. Carry on down the road you'll see a sign at the end.
- 2. Find some help be quick!
- 3. Break some eggs try not to get any pieces of shell in the bowl.
- 4. Twist the cap off of the bottle -it's a bit tricky.
- 5. Behave in school you might get a detention if you don't.
- 6. Keep it out of reach of children it's harmful to them.