

KINDS OF SENTENCES

Sentences may be classified according to the purpose of the speaker or writer. The four principal purposes of a sentence are described below.

1. The **declarative sentence** is used to make a statement of fact, wish, intent, or feeling.
ex. I have seen that movie twice. I wish I could go on the picnic.
2. The **imperative sentence** is used to state a command, request, or direction. The subject is always "You," even though it may not be expressed in the sentence.
ex. (You) Be on time for dinner. (You) Open the window, please.
3. The **interrogative sentence** is used to ask a question. It is followed by a question mark.
ex. Do you have a sweater? Are you having a bad day?
4. An **exclamatory sentence** is used to express strong feeling. It is followed by an exclamation point.
ex. Don't burn yourself out! Keep out! He screamed, "Help!"

Classifying Sentences. Use the numbers above to classify these sentences.

Example: Susan is a senior. 1

1. I wish I could go to Colorado this summer. _____
2. Please set the table for lunch. _____
3. The vice-president will visit Egypt next week. _____
4. Don't you ever get tired of watching television? _____
5. We bought our car in April, 1975. _____
6. Didn't I meet you at Rainbow Lake last summer? _____
7. Have you ever roasted a turkey? _____
8. Ouch! I burned my finger! _____
9. Turn left at the second stop sign. _____
10. San Marino is the smallest republic in Europe. _____
11. Initial the top right-hand corner of each sheet of paper. _____
12. Richard Martin's short stories have appeared in many magazines. _____
13. Have you ever read The Red Badge of Courage? _____
14. You can't be serious! _____
15. Meet me at seven o'clock in front of the library. _____
16. Why are you so worried about the exam? _____
17. Don't close your mind to the other side of the question. _____
18. Nancy wants to be a doctor. _____
19. I can't believe it's all over! _____
20. Do you attend concerts given by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra? _____

1. I wish I could go to Colorado this summer. **1**
2. Please set the table for lunch. **2**
3. The vice-president will visit Egypt next week. **1**
4. Don't you ever get tired of watching television? **3**
5. We bought our car in April, 1975. **1**
6. Didn't I meet you at Rainbow Lake last summer? **3**
7. Have you ever roasted a turkey? **3**
8. Ouch! I burned my finger! **4**
9. Turn left at the second stop sign. **2**
10. San Marino is the smallest republic in Europe. **1**
11. Initial the top right-hand corner of each sheet of paper. **2**
12. Richard Martin's short stories have appeared in many magazines. **1**
13. Have you ever read The Red Badge of Courage? **3**
14. You can't be serious! **4**
15. Meet me at seven o'clock in front of the library. **2**
16. Why are you so worried about the exam? **3**
17. Don't close your mind to the other side of the question. **2**
18. Nancy wants to be a doctor. **1**
19. I can't believe it's all over! **4**
20. Do you attend concerts given by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra? **3**