

Name: Level: Room: Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Main Focus: Grammar (Subjunctive Mood)

USING THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN NOUN CLAUSES

- (a) The teacher demands that we *be* on time.
 (b) I *insisted* that he *pay me* the money.
 (c) I *recommended* that she *not go* to the concert.
 (d) *It is important* that they *be told* the truth.

A subjunctive verb uses the simple form of a verb. It does not have present, past, or future forms; it is neither singular nor plural. Sentences with subjunctive verbs generally *stress importance or urgency*. A subjunctive verb is used in that-clauses that follow the verbs and expressions listed below. In (a): *be* is a subjunctive verb; its subject is *we*. In (b): *pay* (not *pays*, not *paid*) is a subjunctive verb; it is in its simple form, even though its subject (*he*) is singular.

Negative: *not* + simple form, as in (c).

Passive: simple form of *be* + past participle, as in (d).

- (e) I *suggested* that she *see* a doctor.
 (f) I *suggested* that she *should see* a doctor.

Should is also possible after *suggest* and *recommend*.*

COMMON VERBS AND EXPRESSIONS FOLLOWED BY THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN A NOUN CLAUSE

<i>advise (that)</i>	<i>propose (that)</i>	<i>it is essential (that)</i>	<i>it is critical (that)</i>
<i>ask (that)</i>	<i>recommend (that)</i>	<i>it is imperative (that)</i>	<i>it is necessary (that)</i>
<i>Demand (that)</i>	<i>Request (that)</i>	<i>It's important (that)</i>	<i>It's vital (that)</i>
<i>Insist (that)</i>	<i>Suggest (that)</i>		
<i>Urge (that)</i>	<i>Order</i>		
<i>Prefer</i>	<i>Command (that)</i>		

*The subjunctive is more common in American English than British English. In British English, *should* + simple form is more usual than the subjunctive: *The teacher insists that we should be on time.*

EXERCISE 1

Direction: Give the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Some of the verbs are passive.

- Her advisor recommended that she (take) take five courses.
- Roberto insisted that the new baby (name) be named after his grandfather.
- The doctor recommended that she (stay) _____ in bed for a few days.
- The students requested that the test (postpone) _____, but the instructor decided not to postpone.
- It is essential that no one (admit) _____ to the room without proper identification.
- It is critical that pollution (control) _____ and eventually (eliminate) _____.
- It was such a beautiful day that one of the students suggested we (have) _____ class outside.
- The movie director insisted that everything about his productions (be) _____ authentic.
- It is vital that no one else (know) _____ about the secret government operation.
- Mrs. Wah asked that we (be) _____ sure to lock the door behind us.
- I requested that I (permit) _____ to change my class.
- He ordered that his luggage (keep) _____ in a safe place.

EXERCISE 2

Direction: Complete the sentences. There is often more than one possible completion. Use your own idea to complete.

- Mr. Adams insists that we _____ careful in our writing.
- They requested that we not _____ after midnight.
- She demanded that I _____ her truth.
- I recommended that _____ to the head of the department.
- I suggest that everyone _____ a letter to the governor.
- It is essential that I _____ you tomorrow.
- It is important that he _____ the director of the English program.
- It is necessary that everyone _____ here on time.