

Subjunctive

FORM

Use the simple form of the verb. The simple form is the infinitive without the "to." The simple form of the verb "to go" is "go." The Subjunctive is only noticeable in certain forms and tenses.

USE

The Subjunctive is used to emphasize urgency or importance. It is used after certain expressions (see below).

Examples:

- I suggest that he **study**.
- Is it essential that we **be** there?
- Don recommended that you **join** the committee.

NOTICE

The Subjunctive is only noticeable in certain forms and tenses. In the examples below, the Subjunctive is not noticeable in the **you-form** of the verb, but it is noticeable in the **h^e-form** of the verb.

Examples:

- You **try** to study often. (*YOU-FORM OF "TRY"*)
- It is important that you **try** to study often. (*SUBJUNCTIVE FORM OF "TRY" LOOKS THE SAME*)
- He **tries** to study often. (*HE-FORM OF "TRY"*)
- It is important that he **try** to study often. (*SUBJUNCTIVE FORM OF "TRY" IS NOTICEABLE HERE*)

Verbs Followed by the Subjunctive

The Subjunctive is used after the following verbs:

to advise (that)
to ask (that)
to command (that)
to demand (that)
to desire (that)
to insist (that)
to propose (that)
to recommend (that)
to request (that)
to suggest (that)
to urge (that)

Examples:

- Dr. Smith **asked that** Mark **submit** his research paper before the end of the month.
- Donna **requested** Frank **come** to the party.
- The teacher **insists that** her students **be** on time.

Expressions Followed by the Subjunctive

The Subjunctive is used after the following expressions:

It is best (that)
It is crucial (that)
It is desirable (that)
It is essential (that)
It is imperative (that)
It is important (that)
It is recommended (that)
It is urgent (that)
It is vital (that)
It is a good idea (that)
It is a bad idea (that)

Examples:

- **It is crucial that** you **be** there before Tom arrives.
- **It is important** she **attend** the meeting.
- **It is recommended that** he **take** a gallon of water with him if he wants to hike to the bottom of the Grand Canyon.

Negative

Negative Examples:

- The boss insisted that Sam **not be** at the meeting.
- The company asked that employees **not accept** personal phone calls during business hours.
- I suggest that you **not take** the job without renegotiating the salary.

Exercises

a) Complete these sentences using the subjunctive form.

1. It's important that she (remember)..... to take her medicine twice a day.
2. I suggest that Frank (read)..... the directions carefully before assembling the bicycle. He doesn't want the wheels to fall off while he is riding down a hill.

3. The monk insisted that the tourists (enter)the temple until they had removed their shoes.
4. I am not going to sit here and let her insult me. I demand that she immediately (apologize)for what she just said.
5. Judy asked that we (attend)..... her graduation ceremony next week.
6. Judy asked that we (attend)..... her graduation ceremony next week.
7. It's a little difficult to find the restaurant. I propose that we all (drive)..... together so that nobody gets lost along the way.
8. The nutritionist recommended that Sally (reduce)..... her daily fat intake.
9. The sign at the pool recommended that you (swim)..... after eating a large meal.
10. It is necessary that a life guard (monitor)..... the summing pool while the children are taking their swimming lessons.
11. The sun is scorching today. I suggest you (put)on sunblock immediately before you get a sun burn
12. John insists that Sarah (invite)..... to the wedding; otherwise he will not attend.
13. I think it's an interesting fact that she (come)from Estonia.
14. It is imperative that the world (work)..... towards a solution to global warming before the weather patterns of the world are disrupted irreparably.

b) Rewrite these sentences using the provided openings.

- a. "Drink lots of water and have three light meals a day," the doctor suggested.
The doctor suggested _____.
- b. "Submit the paper on Monday at the latest," the teacher insisted.
The teacher insisted _____.
- c. "We should sell the tickets at 3 pounds each," Marie proposed.
Marie proposed _____.
- d. "We must take the necessary steps to reduce global warming now!" the scientist recommended.
The scientist recommended _____.