

Learn the imperative

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL
Beginner

NUMBER
EN_BE_1256X

LANGUAGE
English

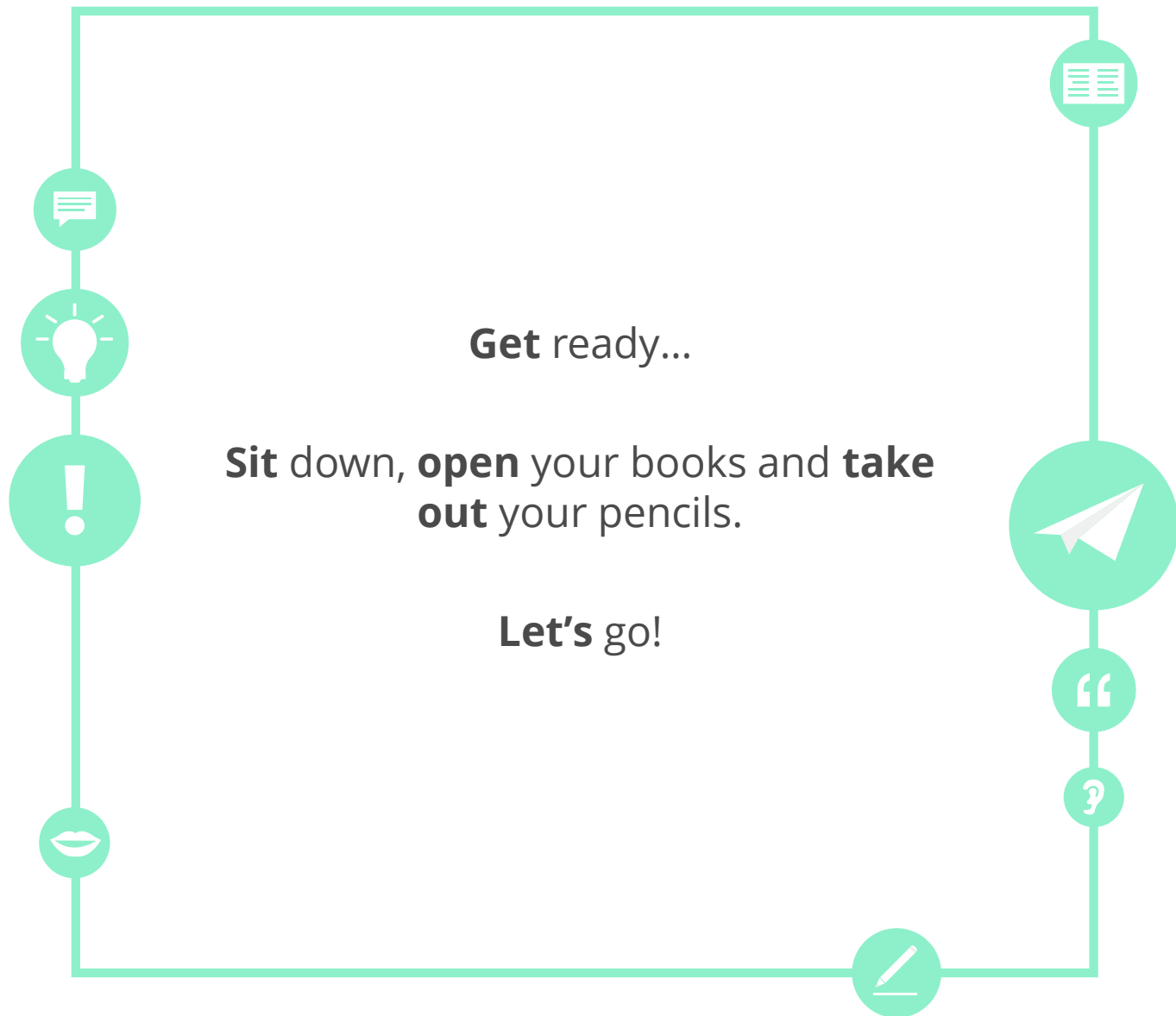




Goals

- Can understand how to form the imperative by dropping the to from the infinitive
- Can use the imperative to give basic directions







Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, you will learn the **imperative** form and practise it in the context of **giving directions**.



Take the next road on the right.

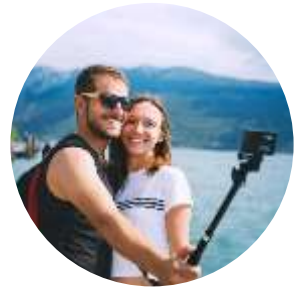


Read these sentences



Sign here please.

Smile for the photo!



Pack your suitcase.

Answer the phone!





The imperative

- The **imperative** is used for **telling people what to do**.
- It is also used for requests, commands and suggestions.



Cross the bridge then turn left!

Take the first street on the right!





Forming the imperative

To form the imperative:

- Drop the **to** from the **infinitive** of a verb
- Put the imperative verb **at the beginning** of the sentence

The imperative doesn't change the word order of the rest of the sentence.

Infinitive		Imperative
to come	→	Come in!
to hurry	→	Hurry up!
to close	→	Close the window!
to stop	→	Stop talking!
to wait	→	Wait for me!



Practise forming the imperative

1. _____ your teeth
before bed. (to brush)

→ **Brush** your teeth.

2. _____ the window. (to
open)



3. _____ to your boss. (to
listen)



4. After work, _____
some exercise. (to do)



5. _____ the office
kitchen please. (to clean)





Using the imperative



- The imperative is a **very direct** form of speech and it must be used carefully.
- It is used when instructions or directions are given. We don't often use it in social situations. This is because it can sound **impolite** or **rude**.
- Requests in social situations are usually made in the form of a question, or by adding the word *please*.
- Look at next slides and observe the differences.



Using the imperative

Requests in social situations are usually made in the form of a question, or by adding the word **please**.

Imperative	Polite
Open the door!	Can you open the door?
Pass the salt!	Pass the salt, please.
Wait a minute!	Could you wait a minute, please?



Activity

Look at the next **four sentences**

Are they using the **imperative** or not?



Imperative or not?



Can you **read** the report today, please?

Close the window, I'm so cold!



Could you **give** me the report, please?

Put on your coat!





Forming the negative imperative

- The imperative can also be used to tell people **not** to do something.
- We simply add the word **don't** before the infinitive and remove the word **to**.
 - The negative imperative doesn't change the word order of the rest of the sentence.



Examples of the negative imperative

- Below are some examples of the negative imperative:

Verb	Negative imperative
to run	Don't run to the meeting
to talk	Don't talk during the conference call.
to walk	Don't walk on the road.
to forget	Don't forget to email me.
to be	Don't be late for work.
to sit	Don't sit on your desk.



Practise forming the negative imperative

1. _____ to me right now.
(to talk)

→ **Don't talk** to me right now.

2. _____ to wear a suit to
the event. (to forget)

→ _____

3. _____ your mobile
phone in a meeting. (to answer)

→ _____

4. _____ work early. (to
leave)

→ _____

5. _____ until everyone
is at the table. (to eat)

→ _____



Let's ...

- Another very common use of the imperative is with the word **let's**. In this form it is used to make a suggestion.
- It is quite casual and is not seen as rude or impolite.



Let's eat!



Activity

Write down 5 different examples of occasions when you could use the imperative with **let's...**

Let's go on holiday!



The imperative with directions

- In general, the imperative is a very direct way of speaking. Usually, it is not the most polite way to talk to someone.
- However, it is okay to use the imperative when giving instructions or directions.



Go straight up the road. **Turn** left. Then **cross** the street and **turn** left again.



Remember these words?

far

turn

close

corner

next to



through

behind

between



New words

to cross

Cross the road. The bus stop is on the other side.



to go straight

Go straight down the street.



to take a left

Take a left at the end of the street.



to take a right

Take a right after the fountain.



to turn around

Turn around, it's in the other direction.





Complete the dialogue



please

now

Excuse me, Can you help me _____? I'm looking for the museum.

far

next to

Here you go. Is it _____ from here?

tell

speak

Great! So _____ me, how do I get there?

Have

Make

Wonderful! Thanks for your help. _____ a nice day!

Yes, of course. _____ me your map.

Let's see. No, it's actually quite _____.

It's right around the corner. _____ the road and turn left. Then you're there!

Show

Take

close

between

Cross

Turn



A map showing a red route starting from a green area with a pond, passing through a residential area, and ending at a yellow location marked 'A'. A purple location marked 'B' is also shown on the route.



Role play

Can you help me
find the...

- Imagine you are on holiday and cannot find the beach. You ask someone for help!
- Create a role play and then switch roles!



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again



Answer key

Exercise 1, p.8

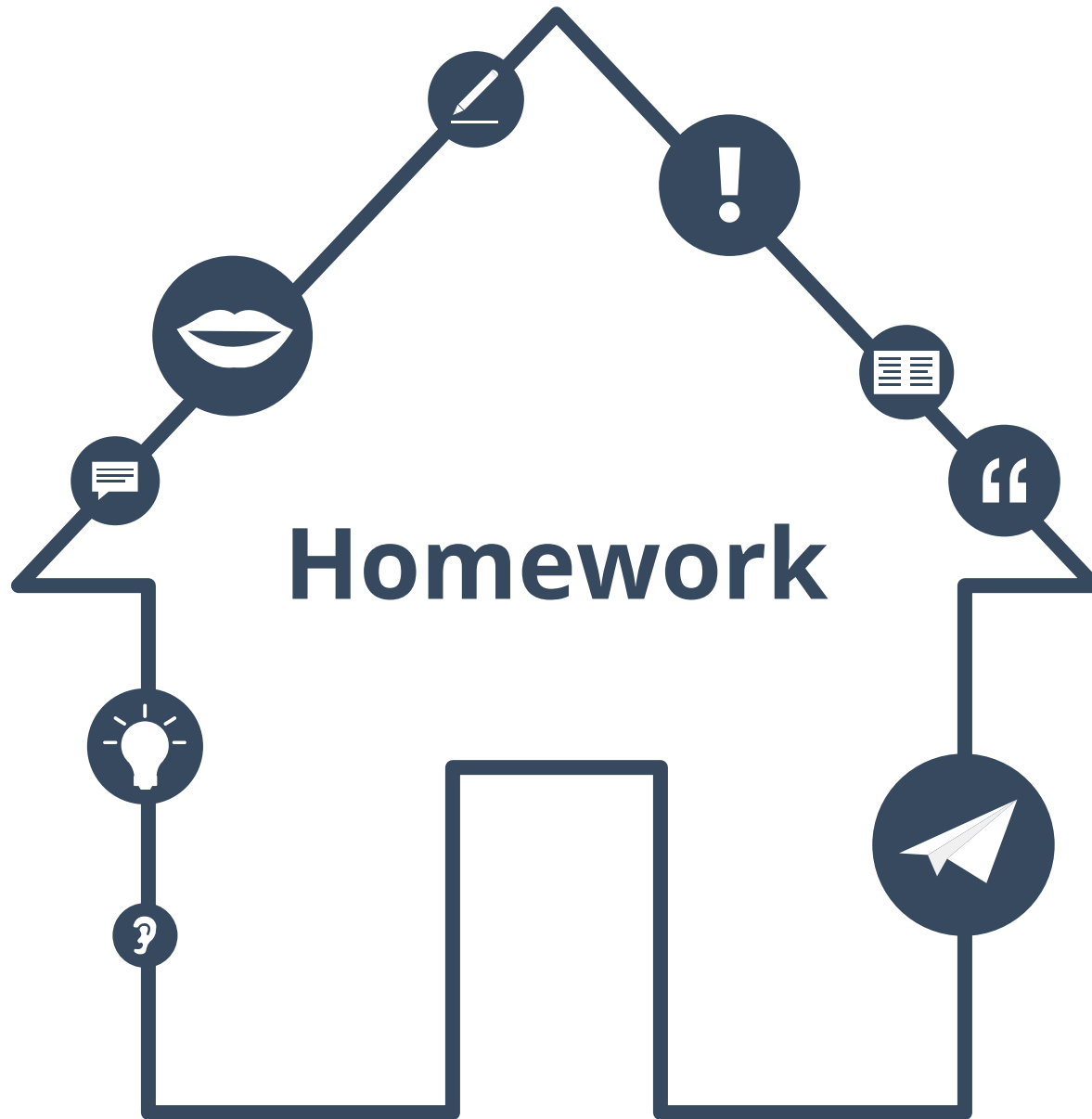
2. Open, 3. Listen, 4. do, 5. Clean

Exercise 2, p.15

2. Don't forget, 3. Don't answer, 4. Don't leave, 5. Don't eat

Exercise 3, p.22

please, Show, far, close, tell, Close, Have





Make flashcards

1. The church is across...
2. You need to go around...
3. After the vegetable shop, take...
4. You're going the wrong way. You need to...

a. a left.

b. the street.

c. turn around.

d. the corner.



Fill in the gaps

Can you _____ me get to the supermarket? I'm lost!

- Yes, of course. First you need to _____ . You're going in the _____ direction. Then _____ straight down the street until the end. _____ left and _____ for 200 metres. Then _____ a right and _____ the road. You will see the supermarket on the _____.

cross

walk

go

turn around

help

wrong

turn

take

corner



Vocabulary lists

**Check the first five words of the lesson.
Sort them into two lists.
Give your lists a name.**

List 1: _____

List 2: _____



My favourite words

**Choose five words or phrases from the lesson
and write them down in your list of *My favourite words*.**

A spiral-bound notebook is shown with a white sticky note attached to the top right. The sticky note has the text "My favourite words" written on it. The notebook has several horizontal lines for writing. Below the sticky note, the first three lines are pre-filled with the text "Word one", "Word two", and "Word three". Below these, there are four more lines, the first of which starts with an ellipsis "...".



Sentences in the third person plural

**Choose five example sentences from this lesson.
Copy them and rewrite them about
a group of people (or using the pronoun *them*).**



Examples:

She is a doctor

→ Hannah and James are doctors.

He speaks English and French

→ They speak English and French.

...



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 29
1B, 2D, 3A, 4C

Exercise p.30
help, turn around, wrong, go, Turn, walk, take, cross, corner



About this material

Find out more at
www.lingoda.com

This material is provided by

lingoda



lingoda Who are we?



Why learn English online?



What kinds of English classes do we offer?



Who are our English teachers?



How do our English certificates work?



We also have a language blog!