

2º ENGLISH

Likes and dislikes

05

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OBJECTIVES



Tell instructions to fulfill actions.

Learn expressions related to likes and dislikes.

Learn different ways of asking for instructions.

Expressions to confirm instructions.

Learn how to rephrase instructions.



/ 1. Introduction and practical context

In this fifth unit, we will learn how to express likes and dislikes properly, and we will also learn different ways of asking for instructions, confirming and rephrasing these instructions. Instructions are needed in many different situations in business context.

Listen to the following audio, including a case study that will be solved along this lesson.



Fig. 1. Like



Audio intro. "Megan, the clinic assistant"

<https://bit.ly/345ssXp>





/ 2. Expressing likes and dislikes

There may be many different situations in which you can express likes and dislikes. We are going to classify them, according to the type of context we may find (formal or informal).

Expressing likes & dislikes (neutral way)

LOVE: I love watching series on Netflix.

LIKE: Peter likes his job.

PREFER: I prefer coffee to tea, please.

NOT LIKE/DISLIKE (*less common*): They don't like apples/They dislike apples.

HATE: Mary hates dogs

Expressing likes (formal way)

LIKING: She has a genuine liking for the countryside.

LOVE: Your great love of animals can be seen in your house.

REGARD: Matthew has always had the greatest regard for my brother.

ENJOYMENT: They get great enjoyment of their house by the sea.

PLEASURE: It was such a great pleasure coming back to my home town.

PREFERENCE: Mary has always had a strong preference for houses near the countryside.

Betty is a **keen admirer** of Brad Pitt, she says he's a very good actor.

Richard is an **ardent/dedicated fan** of rugby, he watches every single match on TV [showing strong feelings].

Mary has always been a **great lover** of rock music.

My teacher Andrew always **filled me with admiration**, he's such a hardworking person.

Of all the soft drinks, coke is my **absolute/all time favourite**.

Expressing dislikes (formal way)

DISLIKE: Simon has an intense dislike of reggaeton music.

AVERSION [a feeling of strong dislike or a lack of willingness to do something]: Some children have a strong aversion to going to the doctor.

HATRED: Mark has a deep hatred of his ex-wife.

Liam **has no sympathy** for lazy people.

Adam always **takes offence** if you don't listen to his boring stories [becomes upset if someone has insulted or disrespected him].



My mother **doesn't relish the thought** of leaving my grandmother alone during holidays [doesn't like to think it is going to happen].

Expressing likes (informal way)

To be into [to like something and be very interested in it]: Alison is really into surfing, she spends all day at the beach.

To be crazy for [to really like something a lot]: Annie is crazy for desserts, she is baking cupcakes almost every day.

To be down with [when you are comfortable with a person or a thing]: You can invite Mark to the wedding. My friends and family are all down with him, he's great.

To be a junkie [to have an extreme liking of a certain thing]: Jamie is a dark chocolate junkie, he can't live without it!

To die for [a term usually used to describe a great meal or drink that you have to try]: The homemade meatballs that my grandmother makes are to die for! Delicious!

Expressing dislikes (informal way)

To not be my/your cup of tea [to not be something you are interested in]: Spending all day cleaning the house is not my cup of tea for a sunny day in summer.

To be put off [to be annoyed by someone or something]: The recruiter was put off by the candidate's rude manners.

To be not my/your thing [an activity that you don't enjoy doing]: Cycling with a mountain bike is not my thing, I'm a quite calm person.

To irk someone [to annoy greatly]: Rude children irk Betty, she can't stand them.

To not care for [to not have good feelings for a person or a thing]: Ryan does not care about his new job.

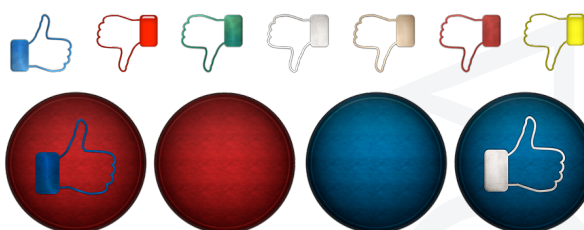


Fig 2. Ways of expressing likes and dislikes



Audio 1. "Cooking"

<https://bit.ly/2yIfXCA>



/ 3. Different ways of asking for instructions

In English, asking for instructions can be used in different situations.

One of them is when we are expecting others to give us orders about an activity or activities to perform. Here are some examples:

Am I to...? (very formal expression, mid-register)

What am I to do? / What am I to say?

Shall I...? (polite expression, mid-register, very common)

What shall I do? (it also means request for advice, apart from instructions)



What must I do? (polite expression, mid-register, very common)

Do you want me to...? (very common, low register, used with friends or relatives)

Do I have to...? (very common, mid-register, it could imply some unwillingness)

The other type of situation is when we are asking for instructions about how to do something. Let's see some examples (neutral way):

How do I do...?

What is the best way to...?

Can you show me how to...?

Do you know how to...?

What do I need to do to...?

How can I...?

3.1. Confirm instructions

In English, we sometimes face situations in which we need to make sure we understand everything, and that's when clarifying information becomes important. If we want to double-check, we ask for clarification. If we want to make sure that someone has understood, we can request information that someone has received the message.

We can have many different expressions for these situations, here you have some examples:

Question tags

We use question tags when we are sure we have understood but would like to double-check. We use the opposite form of the auxiliary verb of the original sentence at the end of the sentence to check.

They don't sell apples, don't they?

You're going to visit your mother, aren't you?

She hasn't bought the tickets, has she?

Ask for clarification

Could you repeat that, please? / Would you mind repeating that, please?

I'm afraid I don't understand.

Could you say that again, please? / Would you mind saying that again, please?

Make sure others understand you

When you present information that might be new to those listening, we can use:

Have I made everything clear?

Are we all on the same page/screen...?



Are there any (more/further) questions?

We can also repeat information by using these expressions:

Let me repeat that.

Let's go through that again.

If you don't mind, I'd like to go over this again.



Fig 3. Communicating



Video 1. "Confirming instructions"
<https://bit.ly/2ZIM7Kg>



/ 4. Rephrase instructions

Rephrasing and transforming instructions involves expressing the same idea in two or more different ways (different vocabulary, different grammatical structure, or both).

We paraphrase by using different expressions in order to check if we have understood what we have been asked for previously in the discourse. We can rephrase the idea in words which the other person may understand more easily.

We need to think of synonymous words and phrases as well as alternative grammatical forms.

Rephrase to double check

We use these phrases to indicate that we would like to rephrase what someone has said in order to make sure we have understood something correctly. Here are some examples:

Can I rephrase what you said?

Can I rephrase what you have said?

So, you mean that...

So, you think that...

So, you believe that...

Let me see if I have understood you correctly. You...

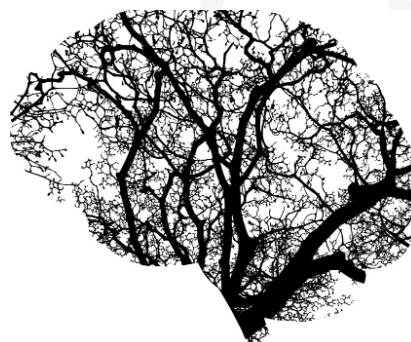


Fig 4. Make sure others understand your instructions



/ 5. Case study 1: “Tell me about it!”

Situation: A woman is watching a very interesting video on Internet.

Question: Another colleague at work arrives in the office, and she starts explaining the main ideas of this video to him. They both chat and laugh for several minutes, they agree that the topic of the video is quite motivational. What expression would this colleague say to the woman to find out the main idea of the video?

Solution: What is it about?



Video 2. “Main ideas”

<https://bit.ly/2YQMh0W>



/ 6. Case study 2: “Free time”

Situation: Two friends are playing a guessing game about hobbies and free time activities.

Question: One of them tells his friend the following definition: You can do it when you like. I usually do it three times a week, either early in the morning or after work. I only go for about 25 minutes but it really keeps me fit. What is the hobby: painting, playing chess, running?

Solution: The definition of the hobby is about running.



Audio 2. “Talking about hobbies”

<https://bit.ly/31dbvrQ>



/ 7. Summary and unit’s case study resolution

Throughout this unit, we have learnt, remembered and reinforced the following concepts:

- Telling instructions to fulfill actions: we have learnt polite expressions to give orders to others, for example, when telling our patients to fill forms out.
- Learning expressions related to likes and dislikes: in everyday language, we may find formal and informal situations in which we need to express likes and dislikes. We have studied some examples for every type of situation.
- Learning different ways of asking for instructions: we can ask for instructions not only in travel situations, but also when we need some advice on how to do something.
- Expressions to confirm instructions: sometimes it’s necessary to confirm information in business contexts. We have learnt some expressions about it.
- Learning how to rephrase instructions: we have learnt to double check information by using rephrasing or paraphrasing strategies.



- In the practical cases of this unit, we have learnt how to tell the main idea in a discourse (video, text,...) and how to tell about things we like doing in our free time.

Case study resolution

At the beginning of this unit we had proposed the case study of Meghan, the clinic assistant who worked full time at Dr Bonneville's office in Brighton. A new patient had arrived and she needed to ask him all his personal details to fill a form out. The answer to this question are the following expressions: Could you tell me your full name, please? Could you tell me your date of birth, please? Could you tell me your address, please? Could you tell me your telephone number, please?

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