

- **prefer + gerund/noun + to + gerund/noun** (general preference) e.g. *I prefer **listening** to the radio **to watching** TV. I prefer **fish** to meat.*
- **prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive** (general preference) e.g. *She prefers **to stay** home **rather than go** out.*
- **would prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive** (specific preference) e.g. *I would prefer **to go** sailing **rather than go** skiing.*
- **would rather + bare infinitive + than + bare infinitive** e.g. *I would rather **visit** the museum **than go** to the opera.*

CLAUSES OF RESULT

Clauses of result are introduced by **that** (after **such/so...**).

- **such a(n) + adjective + singular countable noun** e.g. *It was **such a lovely** day that we decided to go swimming.*
- **such (+ adjective) + uncountable noun/plural noun** e.g. *There was **such heavy** traffic that it took us hours to reach the central square.*
- **so + adjective/adverb** e.g. *He was running **so quickly** that he tripped and fell.*
- **so + few/little/many/much + noun** e.g. *There were **so few** tickets sold that the concert was cancelled.*
- **so + adjective + a(n) + noun** (not usual) e.g. *It was **so boring** a seminar that we almost fell asleep.*

ARTICLES

A/An (Indefinite article) - The (Definite article)

- **A/An** is used with singular countable nouns to talk about indefinite things. e.g. *There's **a** man waiting for you at the door. (indefinite) **Some** can be used in the affirmative with plural countable nouns or uncountable nouns and **any** in questions and negations. e.g. **There are some** olives in the jar. **There's some** beer in the fridge. **Is there any** money left in the bank account? **There aren't any** biscuits in the cupboard.*
- **The** is used with singular and plural nouns, countable and uncountable ones, to talk about something specific or when the noun is mentioned for a second time. e.g. ***The** green building is my school. **There's a** car parked in the middle of the road. **The** car is Paul's.*
- **A/An** or **the** is used before singular countable nouns to refer to a group of people, animals or things. e.g. ***A/The** canary is the most popular singing-bird. **A/An** or **the** is never used before a noun in the plural when it represents a group. e.g. **Canaries** are the most popular singing birds.*

The is used before:

- **nouns which are unique** *the moon, the Tower of London*
- **names of cinemas** *(The Odeon), hotels* *(The Hilton),*

theatres *(The Theatre Royal), museums* *(The Museum of Modern Art), newspapers/magazines* *(The European (but: Time), ships* *(The QE2), institutions* *(The Royal Academy of Art), galleries* *(The National Gallery)*

- **names of rivers** *(the Thames), seas* *(the North Sea), groups of islands/states* *(the Orkney Islands, the USA), mountain ranges* *(the Alps), deserts* *(the Sahara Desert), oceans* *(the Atlantic), canals* *(the Suez Canal) and names or nouns with "of"* *(the Chamber of Horrors, the Vale of Death) Note: the equator, the Arctic/Antarctic, the South of France, the South/West/North/East*
- **musical instruments, dances** *the flute, the samba*
- **names of families** *(the Browns), nationalities ending in -sh, -ch or -ese* *(the Welsh, the Dutch, the Chinese, etc). Other plural nationalities are used with or without "the"* *(the South Africans, the Americans, etc)*
- **titles** *(the President, the Prince of Wales, the Queen). "The" is omitted before titles with proper names* *Queen Elizabeth II*
- **adjectives used as plural nouns** *(the blind, the elderly, the rich, the poor, etc) and the superlative degree of adjectives/adverbs.* e.g. *He's the most intelligent one here.*
- **Note: "most" used as a determiner followed by a noun, does not take "the".** e.g. ***Most** students failed the exams. **but: The most** interesting lecture was the one on endangered species.*
- **the words:** beach, cinema, city, coast, country(side), earth, ground, jungle, radio, pub, sea(side), sky, station, shop, theatre, village, weather, world, etc **but not before "man" (= people)** e.g. *I went to the shop to buy bread. Note: "the" is optional with seasons. .*
- **morning, afternoon, evening, night.** e.g. *I'll come round in **the** morning. (but: at night, at noon, at midnight, by day/night, at 5 o'clock etc).*
- **historical reference/events** *the French Revolution, the Second World War (but: World War II)*
- **only, last, first (used as adjectives).** *Alex is **the first** to come and **the last** to leave.*

The is omitted before:

- **proper nouns** *James, Swansea*
- **names of sports, games, activities, days, months, holidays, colours, drinks, meals and languages (not followed by the word "language")** e.g. *I love polo. Can you speak Spanish? **but: The Chinese language** is fascinating.*
- **names of countries** *(France), but: the Netherlands, (the) Sudan, the Hague, the Vatican, cities* *(Manchester), streets* *(Bond Street), but: the High Street, the Strand, the Mall, the A11, the M4 motorway, squares* *(George Square), bridges* *(Tower Bridge but: the Bridge of Sighs, the Forth Bridge, the Severn Bridge, the Golden Gate Bridge, parks* *(Central Park), stations* *(King's Cross Station), individual mountains* *(Mount Everest), islands* *(Malta), lakes* *(Lake Ontario), continents* *(Asia)*

- **possessive adjectives** *That is my car.*
- **two-word names whose first word is the name of a person or a place** *Glasgow Airport, Edinburgh Castle* **but:** *The White House* (because the first word "White" is not the name of a person or a place)
- **pubs, restaurants, shops, banks and hotels which have the name of their founder and end in -s or -s's** *Tom's Café, Harrods, Baring's Bank*, **but:** *the White Horse* (pub) (because "White Horse" is not the name of the founder)
- **bed, church, college, court, hospital, prison, school, university when we refer to the purpose for which they exist** *He goes to church every Sunday*, **but:** *We have to be at the church at 2.00 for Julie's wedding.* *Work* (= place of work) never takes "the". e.g. *I have to go to work now.*
- **the words home, father/mother when we talk about our own home/parents** e.g. *Mum is home now.*
- **means of transport: by bus/by car/by train/by plane, etc but: in the car, on the bus/train, etc.** e.g. *She came by bus.* **but:** *She was on the bus when the accident happened.*
- We say: **flu/the flu, measles/the measles, mumps/the mumps**, **but:** *He's got pneumonia.*

QUESTION TAGS

Question tags are short questions added to an affirmative or negative statement. They are used a) to ask for confirmation of something. In this case the question tag is said with rising intonation. e.g. *He is from Spain, isn't he?* (we don't know), b) to ask others if they agree with us. In this case the question tag is said with falling intonation. e.g. *He is rich, isn't he?* (we expect that the others will agree with us).

Question tags are formed with an auxiliary verb and the appropriate personal pronoun. They take the same auxiliary as in the statement if there is one, otherwise they take **do/does** (Present Simple) or **did** (Past Simple). An affirmative statement is followed by a negative question tag, and a negative statement is followed by a positive question tag. e.g. *They are late, **aren't they?*** *He left early, **didn't he?*** *You haven't seen Paul, **have you?*** *Nobody called, **did they?***

Study the following:

- **I am ... aren't I?** e.g. *I'm rather late, **aren't I?***
- **Imperative ... will you/won't you/can you/could you? Go out, will you?**
- **Negative Imperative ... will you?** e.g. *Don't tell her, **will you?***
- **Let's ... shall we?** e.g. *Let's go to the park, **shall we?***
- **Let me/him ... will you/won't you?** e.g. *Let me help you, **will you?***

- **I have** (= possess) ... **haven't I?** e.g. *He has a car, **hasn't he?***
- **I have** (used idiomatically) ... **don't I?** e.g. *He had lunch, **didn't he?***
- **This/That is ... isn't it?** e.g. *This is your ring, **isn't it?***
Note that with words like **everybody, somebody, nobody** we use **they**. e.g. *Nobody passed the test, **did they?***

UNIT 7

EXPRESSING POSSIBILITY - LOGICAL ASSUMPTIONS

- We use **can** in negative sentences or questions to talk about something which is possible to be true. e.g. *He **can't be** wrong. He seems to know what he is talking about.*
- We use **could, may** or **might** in affirmative sentences with this meaning. e.g. *He **could/may/might be** wrong. After all, it was dark.*
Note the difference: *He **can't be** wrong. (=I'm sure he isn't wrong.)* *He **may/might be** wrong. (=Perhaps he is wrong.)*
- We use **must** in affirmative sentences to talk about something we are certain about. e.g. *He **must be** wrong. (=I'm sure he is wrong.)*

Note the forms of the infinitive after **must/can't/may-might-could**

Present infinitive

*I'm sure he **works** hard. → He **must work** hard.*
*Perhaps he **will pass** his test. → He **may pass** his test.*

Present Continuous infinitive:

*I'm sure he **isn't studying**. → He **can't be studying**.*
*Perhaps he **will be exercising**. → He **may be exercising**.*

Perfect infinitive:

*I'm sure he **left**. → He **must have left**.*
*I'm sure he **hasn't arrived** yet. → He **can't have arrived** yet.*
*Perhaps he **(called) had called** earlier. → He **may have called** earlier.*

Perfect Continuous infinitive:

*Perhaps he **was working** late. → He **may have been working** late.*
*I'm sure he **had been trying** to find you. → He **must have been trying** to find you.*

EXPRESSING OBLIGATION - NECESSITY

- We use **must** to express strong obligation coming from the speaker. e.g. *I really **must** have some sleep.*
- We use **have to** to express obligation coming from "outside". e.g. *We **have to** wear uniforms at work.*
- We use **had to** to express obligation in the past. e.g. *He **had to** walk two miles to go to school when he was a child.*