

EXERCISE 2

Changing the following interrogative sentences into Assertive sentences and vice versa :

1. Gandhi was honoured everywhere.
2. The sun can never rise in the west.
3. No one ever saw a greater misfortune.
4. Is Veena not a good girl ?
5. Will anyone like to fail ?
6. Who can control the winds ?
7. Everybody likes to earn name and fame.
8. You cannot win the match.
9. Is blood not thicker than water ?
10. What is the harm if you go there ?
11. Wisdom is much better than riches.
12. Did I ever ask you to go home ?

C. Changing an Imperative sentence into an Interrogative sentence and vice versa

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| 1. Imperative | Stop crying. |
| Interrogative | Will you stop crying ? |
| 2. Imperative | Open the window. |
| Interrogative | Open the window, will you ? |
| 3. Imperative | Please lend me your book. |
| Interrogative | Will you, please, lend me your book ? |
| 4. Interrogative | Will you get out of here or not ? |
| Imperative | Get out of here. |
| 5. Interrogative | Will you tell him to see me ? |
| Imperative | Tell him to see me. |
| 6. Interrogative | Will you stand up on the bench ? |
| Imperative | Stand up on the bench. |

EXERCISE 3

Changing the following Imperative sentences into Interrogative sentences and vice versa :

1. Open all the doors.
2. Sit down on the chair.
3. Stop talking loudly.
4. Speak gently to the poor.
5. Lend me your umbrella, please.
6. Will you, please, give me a lift ?
7. Will you stand up ?
8. Will you open your book ?
9. Will you, please allow me to use your phone ?
10. Will you keep quiet ?

D. Changing a Negative sentence into an Affirmative sentence and vice versa

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|----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Negative | I am not so great as he. |
| Affirmative | He is greater than I. |
| 2. Negative | She does not hate her brother. |
| Affirmative | She likes her brother. |
| 3. Negative | He is not illiterate. |
| Affirmative | He is literate. |
| 4. Affirmative | Richa is a beautiful girl. |
| Negative | Richa is not an ugly girl. |
| 5. Affirmative | He loves gambling. |
| Negative | He does not hate gambling. |
| 6. Affirmative | Our team won the match. |
| Negative | Our team did not lose the match. |

CHAPTER 10 : TRANSFORMATION OF SENTENCES

It is of paramount importance that students should be given a practice in various ways of expression. This chapter is intended to provide them some exercise in the Transformation of sentences.

To transform a sentence is to change it from one grammatical form to another without altering its sense.
—J. C. Nesfield

The Transformation or Conversion of a sentence means changing its form without altering its sense.

—David Green

Changing the form of a sentence without changing its meaning is called 'The Transformation of a sentence'.

—M. L. Agrawal

The conversion or transformation of sentences is an excellent exercise as it teaches variety of expression in writing English. There are different kinds and methods of transformation as are explained below.

A. Changing an Exclamatory sentence into an Assertive sentence and vice versa

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| 1. Exclamatory | Oh that I had the wings of a dove ! |
| Assertive | I wish I had the wings of a dove. |
| 2. Exclamatory | Alas ! he is undone. |
| Assertive | It is so sad that he is undone. |
| 3. Exclamatory | Hurrah ! we have won the match. |
| Assertive | It is a delight (joy) that we have won the match. |
| 4. Assertive | The music is very sweet. |
| Exclamatory | How sweet the music is ! |
| 5. Assertive | I wish to gain the first prize. |
| Exclamatory | Would that I could gain the first prize ! |
| 6. Assertive | Night is very beautiful. |
| Exclamatory | How beautiful the night is ! |

EXERCISE 1

Transform the following Exclamatory sentences into Assertive ones and vice versa :

1. It is a very cold night.
2. I am very unhappy.
3. It is a very cruel blow.
4. I wish I had never left my country.
5. I earnestly desire to get his beautiful pen.
6. O that I were young again !
7. Would that I were a princess !
8. How beautiful the rain is !
9. How lovely the rose is !
10. If only I could see my home again !

B. Changing an Interrogative sentence into an Assertive sentence and vice versa

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|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Interrogative | Is love not blind ? |
| Assertive | Love is blind. |
| 2. Interrogative | When can the brave die ? |
| Assertive | The brave can never die. |
| 3. Interrogative | Who would not like to be rich ? |
| Assertive | Everybody would like to be rich. |
| 4. Assertive | Milton was a great poet. |
| Interrogative | Was Milton not a great poet ? |
| 5. Assertive | he will never forget my kindness. |
| Interrogative | Will he ever forget my kindness ? |
| 6. Assertive | Their glory can never fade. |
| Interrogative | When can their glory fade ? |

EXAMPLES

- [4] **by changing a statement into a question or vice-versa :**
+ve : He is a good student.
-ve : Is he not a good student ?
+ve : Can I ever forget you ?
-ve : I can never forget you.
- [5] **by changing the degree :**
+ve : He is greater than I.
-ve : I am not so great as he.
+ve : Old fools surpass all other fools in folly.
-ve : There's no fool like an old fool.
- [6] **using 'no sooner' and 'but' :**
+ve : It always pours.
-ve : It never rains, but it pours.
+ve : He fled when he saw her.
-ve : No sooner did he see her than he fled.
- [7] **by removing 'too' or by changing it into a complex sentence :**
+ve : He is too weak to walk.
-ve : He is so weak that he cannot walk.
+ve : She is too young to travel alone.
-ve : She is so young that she cannot travel alone.
+ve : He is too clever to be taken in.
-ve : He is so clever that he cannot be taken in.
+ve : The news is too good to be true.
-ve : The news is so good that it cannot be true.
+ve : His health is a little too weak.
-ve : His health is so weak that it should not be.

Her words are too kind (removing 'too').
Her words are kind beyond limit.

EXERCISE

- [9] I did not fail to help him.
[10] How can I drink the hot tea ?
[11] He was as brave as she.
[12] She sings better than he.
[13] Everybody admits that he is a fool.
- [14] Only a Hercules can do this.
[15] It is useless to go there now.
[16] There is always lightning when it thunders.
[17] None can bear an insult.
[18] Learned men are not always reasonable.
- [19] He has to attend the meeting.
[20] As soon as he saw the snake he fled.
[21] Everyman is liable to error.
- Remove 'too' or transform the +ve sentence into a -ve one or the simple sentences into complex ones and vice versa :**
- [1] I am too tired to walk.
[2] He is too lazy to succeed.
[3] She is too strong to surrender.
[4] My heart is too full for sorrows.
[5] Be not too eager for praise.
[6] It is never too late to mend.
[7] She is so weak that she cannot dance.
[8] He is too intelligent to be fooled.
[9] He is so dull that he cannot understand.
[10] The sight is too dreadful to be seen.
[11] It's too wet to play tennis.
[12] He is too upright to accept a bribe.
[13] The box is too heavy to be lifted.
[14] He has too many irons in the fire.

Drinking water cannot be too pure.
Hint : Drinking water cannot be pure to a fault.

20.03 INTERCHANGE OF EXCLAMS : STATEMENTS

'How' and 'What' in exclamations are replaced by 'very' before adjectives and 'great' before nouns

[Ex = Exclamation ; St = Statement]

EXAMPLES

- [1] **Ex.** What a terrible sight !
St. It is a very terrible sight.
- [2] **Ex.** What a fool you are !
St. You are a great fool.
- [3] **Ex.** How beautiful the night is !
St. The night is very beautiful.
- [4] **Ex.** Woe to the tyrant !
St. Woe is to befall the tyrant.
- [5] **St.** It is a very nasty fall.
Ex. What a nasty fall it is !
- [6] **St.** A soldier should not be afraid of death.
Ex. A soldier, and afraid of death !
- [7] **St.** Your hair is very lovely.
Ex. How lovely your hair is !
- [8] **St.** You are a fool, you must get out.
Ex. Get out, you fool !

EXERCISE

Transform the following exclamations into statements and vice versa :

- [1] What a lame excuse !
[2] If I knew this before !
[3] What a nice flower it is !
[4] How nice the night is !
[5] A little learning is a dangerous thing.
[6] She is very unlucky.
[7] How she dances !
[8] It is sad that he is no more.
[9] I wish I had the wings of a dove.
[10] I wish I were young again.
[11] We rejoice that we have won.
[12] Good morning, Mr Mital.
[13] It is sad that our leader is dead.
[14] I wish I knew this before.
[15] That was a terrible fall, my countrymen.
[16] If I could only gain the first prize !
[17] A fireman, and afraid of fire !
[18] Death before dishonour !
[19] Well done !
[20] I wish I had never left my home.

20.04 INTERCHANGE OF POSITIVES & NEGATIVES

Negative sentences are often formed by—

EXAMPLES

[+ ve = positive; -ve = negative]

EXERCISE

- [1] **using opposite word eg, 'none' for *only*, 'never' for *always* ; 'good' for *bad*.**
+ve : Only a fool can act thus.
-ve : None but a fool can act thus.
- [2] **using opposite word after 'not' :**
+ve : She is an intelligent girl.
-ve : She is not a dull girl.
- [3] **using double negative :**
+ve : He tried every plan.
-ve : He left no plan untried.

Transform the following sentences from positive [affirmative] to negative and vice versa :

- [1] I shall always love you.
[2] She will never forget me.
[3] We hate liars.
[4] Life is a bed of thorns. [काँटा]
[5] Your friend is not honest.
[6] Man is mortal.
[7] He seldom hears from her.
[8] Nobody trusts a thief.

TRANSFORMATION OF SENTENCES

20.01 TRANSFORMATION : KINDS

Transformation of sentences is to change the form of sentences into another form without changing the meaning. [অর্থ ঠিক রেখে বাক্য পরিবর্তন করা] There may be—

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">[1] Interchange of kinds of sentences[2] Interchange of +ve and -ve sentences[3] Removing 'too'[4] Change of parts of speech | <ul style="list-style-type: none">[5] Change of degrees[6] Change of voices[7] Change of mode of narration[8] Conversion of simple to complex etc. |
|---|---|

20.02 INTERCHANGE OF SENTENCES

Questions may be asked (I) to get information or (II) to suggest the answer that the speaker expects. Positive questions suggest negative answers while negative questions suggest positive answers

[QUESTIONS (Qn) & STATEMENTS (St)]

EXAMPLES

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">[1] Qn. Why cry over spilt milk ?
St. It is useless to cry over spilt milk.[2] Qn. When can their glory fade ?
St. Their glory can never fade.[3] Qn. Who wastes time ?
St. It is foolish to waste time.[4] Qn. Who does not want to be free ?
St. Everybody wants to be free.[5] St. We cannot please everybody.
Qn. Can we please everybody ?[6] St. Nothing exceeds like success.
Qn. Does anything exceed like success ?[7] St. Coal cannot change its colour.
Qn. Can coal change its colour ?[8] St. Blood is thicker than water.
Qn. Is not blood thicker than water ? |
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EXERCISE

Transform the following sentences from questions to statements and vice versa :

- [1] Is he not a great fool ?
- [2] Can any one do this ?
- [3] What does it matter if I fail ?
- [4] Everybody wants to be happy.
- [5] Should anybody trust a liar ?
- [6] Everybody knows him.
- [7] Of what use is an old thing ?
- [8] I shall never forget your help.
- [9] Is it your honesty ?
- [10] Did I not tell you so ?
- [11] None can bear such an insult.
- [12] Virtue is its own reward.
- [13] He was a fool to act thus.
- [14] We bleed if you prick us.
- [15] Is this the dress to wear in school ?

There is no hard and fast rule for transformation. Examples and Exercises are placed side by side to ease the practice.

INTERCHANGING EXCLAMATORY AND ASSERTIVE SENTENCES

You know that an exclamatory sentence expresses sudden emotions. It ends with an exclamation mark. An exclamatory sentence can be changed into an assertive sentence without changing its meaning and vice versa.

Example: What a lovely weather! (exclamatory)
The weather is lovely. (assertive)

Read these sentences carefully. Note the changes in these sentences.

1. Exclamatory: What a beautiful sight it was!
Assertive: The sight was very beautiful.
2. Exclamatory: How kind of you to bring the injured stray dog home!
Assertive: It is very kind of you to bring the injured stray dog home.
3. Exclamatory: Oh, that I could fly like a bird!
Assertive: I wish I could fly like a bird.
4. Exclamatory: Alas, I could not clear the medical entrance examination!
Assertive: It is sad that I could not clear the medical entrance examination.

Workout

A. Change these exclamatory sentences into **assertive sentences**.

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| 1. What a cute baby girl you have! | 4. Alas, all good things in life pass away soon! |
| 2. How wonderfully Tania manages her house! | 5. What a cheering news it is! |
| 3. If I were a painter like Leonardo da Vinci! | 6. That I could be a child again! |

B. Change these assertive sentences into **exclamatory sentences**.

1. I wish I knew your plan before.
2. My first day in Goa was very exciting.
3. The backwaters in Kerala are extremely beautiful.
4. My sister is an exceptionally good dancer.
5. It is a matter of great shame that you are thinking to bribe the management.
6. It is very kind of you to help him like that.

TRANSFORMATION OF SENTENCES

Sentences can be classified in two ways:

1. Sentences can be **assertive** (affirmative or negative), **interrogative**, **imperative** or **exclamatory**.
2. Sentences can be **simple**, **compound** or **complex**.

Read these sentences.

1. She is always punctual. (assertive – affirmative)
2. She is never late. (assertive – negative)
3. Is she always punctual? (interrogative)

Did you notice that though these sentences have been expressed in different ways, the basic meaning has not changed?

Similarly, these three sentences also say the same thing.

1. Akram must work hard to win the scholarship. (simple)
2. Akram must work hard **and** win the scholarship. (compound)
3. Akram must work hard **if** he wants to win the scholarship. (complex)

The **transformation** of a sentence means changing its form without changing its meaning.