

CHAPTER-I

The Sentence



Examine the following groups of words :

- "A" 1. Shimla is the capital of Himachal Pradesh.
2. Please lend me your pen.
3. Have you done your homework ?
4. May you prosper in life !

It may be seen that these are groups of words so arranged as to make sense. These are Sentences.

"B" Examine the following groups of words :

1. Himachal Pradesh of Shimla the capital is.
2. Me your pen please lend.
3. Life may prosper in you.
4. Done you have homework you.

It may be seen that groups of words in Sentences 1, 2, 3, 4 in "B" are not arranged properly. They are the same as in sentences in group "A" above. Such-groups of words are not sentences because they are not arranged properly to make sense. They are jumbled words.

"A sentence, therefore, is a group of words so arranged as to make sense."

EXERCISE-I

Re-arrange the jumbled words in the following groups so as to make meaningful sentences.

1. Run pays long in honesty the.
2. Busy the is postman.
3. Herds the move elephants in.
4. Gives sun us the warmth.
5. Friend Mohan my close is.
6. After the leaves fresh rain are.
7. Failed inspite he of hard work.
8. Bear the Raja not could loss the.
9. Kasi born was at Lakshmi Bai.
10. Does is handsome that handsome.



KINDS OF SENTENCES

It has been observed that a group of words that makes sense is called a sentence.

There are five kinds of sentences :

I. Statements or Assertive Sentences :

Examine the following sentences :

1. Ram is a brilliant student.
2. She comes of a noble family.
3. The sun rises in the east.
4. A cool breeze is blowing.

The above sentences simply state facts. They assert or declare something and therefore, they are called Statements, Assertive sentences or even Declarative Sentences. These sentences take "Fullstop" (.) at the end.

II. Imperative Sentences :

Read the following sentences :

1. Open the door.
2. Please bring me a glass of water.
3. Have pity on me.
4. Let us sit in the sun.

It may be seen that the first sentence is a command, the second a request, the third an entreaty and the fourth a proposal. A sentence that expresses a command, a request, an entreaty or a proposal is called an Imperative Sentence.

III. Exclamatory Sentences :

Look at the following sentences :

1. What a fool he is !
2. How lovely the scenery is !
3. Alas ! his father is no more.
4. Hurrah ! our team has won the match.

All the above sentences express a strong and sudden feeling of surprise, joy, pity and are called exclamatory Sentences. Such sentences have a mark of exclamation (!) at the end.

IV. Interrogative Sentences :

Examine the following sentences :

1. Where are you coming from ?
2. Do you know where he lives ?
3. Is the teacher calling the roll ?
4. How is he feeling now ?

All these sentences are questions. A sentence which asks a question or makes an enquiry is called an Interrogative Sentence. Such a sentence has question mark (?) at the end.

V. Optative Sentences :

Examine the following sentences of a peculiar type :

1. May he prosper in life !
2. May God bless her with a son !
3. May you live long !
4. May you all get through the examination !

The above sentences express a wish on the part of the speaker. These are called Optative Sentences. These sentences too have a sign of exclamation (!) at the end.

In sum, there are following five kinds of sentences :

1. Assertive Sentences 2. Imperative Sentences 3. Exclamatory Sentences 4. Interrogative Sentences 5. Optative Sentences.

Note : There is yet another kind of a sentence not covered under the five kinds mentioned above. For example, examine the following sentences :

1. If you do not come in time, you will miss the train.
2. If it does not rain to-day, we shall play a match.
3. If you had worked hard, you would have passed.
4. If I go to Delhi, I shall bring you the book of your choice.
5. Had you not helped me, I would have been ruined.

In these sentences, there is a condition attached to complete the sense. Such sentences are called "Conditional Sentences".

EXERCISE-II

- (a) What is the kind of each of the following sentences :
1. Please convey my message to your father.
 2. Always respect your teachers.
 3. A rolling stone gathers no moss.
 4. Have they reached home ?
 5. What a wonderful scene it is !
 6. What is he looking for ?
 7. If you act upon my advice, you will succeed.
 8. Hurrah ! he has won the first prize.
 9. If he had reached in time, he would have been marked present.
 10. Do not talk ill of others.
- (b) Use the following structures to make sentences as directed :
- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Are ?
(Interrogative) | 2. How ?
(Interrogative) |
| 3. May !
(Optative) | 4. If
(Conditional) |
| 5. Do ?
(Interrogative) | 6. Please
(Imperative) |
| 7. It
(Assertive) | 8. Bring
(Imperative) |
- (c) Make sentences of your own using the following structures :
what, when, may, if, it, how.



AFFIRMATIVE AND NEGATIVE SENTENCES

It has been seen that there are five main kinds of sentences. All the sentences taken so far are in the affirmative form i.e., they affirm something or state something in a positive way. They can be made negative when they state something in a negative way by using such words as 'Not' and 'Never'.

Look at the following sentences. In table 'A' they are *affirmative* sentences and in table 'B' they are negative sentences.

Table 'A'

1. They are Indians.
2. I have taken tea.
3. The girls are singing a song.
4. John stood first in the examination.
5. He means what he says.
6. My friend has been looking into the matter.
7. The teacher will punish us.
8. They had left the station.
9. I shall ever remember you.
10. He is ever grateful to you.

Table 'B'

1. They are not Indians.
2. I have not taken tea.
3. The girls are not singing a song.
4. John did not stand first in the examination.
5. He does not mean what he says.
6. My friend has not been looking into the matter.
7. The teacher will not punish us.
8. They had not left the station.
9. I shall never remember you.
10. He is never grateful to you.