

Types of Sentences

A **sentence** is a word or a group of words expressing a complete idea.

E.g. *They are reading a book.*
Do you speak English?
It's a fine day!

According to *the purpose of the utterance* we distinguish four kinds of sentences:

- 1) the declarative sentence
- 2) the interrogative sentence
- 3) the imperative sentence
- 4) the exclamatory sentence

1. A **declarative** sentence states a fact in the affirmative or negative form.

E.g. *This is a museum. (+)*
She is not a student. (-)

Negative sentences are formed by means of the negative particle “*not*” which is put after the verb (auxiliary, modal, link verb).

E.g. *I do not like rainy weather.*

Negative pronouns (no-one, none, neither, nothing, no, etc.), negative adverbs (never, nowhere, etc.) and some other words (hardly, refuse, without, etc.) are also used to express negation.

Mind! There is only one negation in an English sentence.

E.g. *She never walks alone.*

2. **Interrogative** sentences ask questions.

E.g. *Where do you live?*

3. **Imperative** sentences express commands, requests, invitations, etc.

E.g. *Stand up.*
Open the door, will you?

4. An **exclamatory** sentence expresses some kind of emotion or feeling (joy, anger, grief, wonder, etc.). It often begins with the words “*What*” and “*How*”.

E.g. *How wonderful!*
What fine weather we are having today!