

IMPERATIVES

A personal object is always present. Imperatives become infinitive phrases in reported speech, preceded by verbs such as *tell*, *order*, *command*, *ask*, with a (pro)noun for the person addressed, for example:

Bring me a book.

He asked her (him, us, etc.) *to bring* him a book.



- Put into REPORTED SPEECH, using the verb indicated:
 1. Go away. (He told)
 2. Come here. (I asked)
 3. Eat it up. (Tell)
 4. Run away. (They told)
 5. Pay at once. (They ordered)
 6. Fold it in half. (She asked)
 7. Give me another. (Ask)
 8. Write quickly. (Tell)
 9. Sit down. (We asked)
 10. Have a cup of tea. (She asked)
 11. Come at five o'clock. (He told)
 12. Pick it up. (He ordered)
 13. Wash your face. (He told)
 14. Clean my shoes. (I asked)
 15. Do it again. (Tell)
 16. Open the door. (Ask)
 17. Hold this. (She asked)
 18. Play the piano. (They asked)
 19. Come in. (He ordered)
 20. Look out. (I told)

A negative imperative is reported by means of a negative infinitive, for example:

Don't do it.

He asked me (her, us, etc.) *not to do* it.



- Put into REPORTED SPEECH:
 1. Clean it yourself.
 2. Wrap it up in a piece of paper.
 3. Cut the corners off.
 4. Fasten your safety belts.
 5. Don't sit on my bed.
 6. Wait there till I come.
 7. Don't speak until you're spoken to.
 8. Leave it on the piano.
 9. Don't wipe your dirty fingers on my nice clean tablecloth.
 10. Don't try to be funny.
 11. Brush it off when it gets dry.

12. Don't put your elbow on the table.
13. Look where you're going.
14. Mind the steps.
15. Get your hair cut.
16. Shut the door after you.
17. Hold it round the middle
18. Don't spill it on the carpet.
19. Pull your socks up.
20. Take a look at yourself in the mirror.



- Put the following into REPORTED SPEECH:
 1. Go to bed and don't get up till you're called.
 2. Eat up your dinner at once or I'll punish you.
 3. Write your name clearly at the top and then take down these points as I call them out.

*Adapted by Anna Pławecka from STANNARD ALLEN W., Living English Structure, London 1959, Longmans, Green