

## **AFFIRMATIVE, NEGATIVE, ASSERTIVE, EXCLAMATORY AND INTERROGATIVE SENTENCES:**

### **1. Affirmative sentence:**

An **affirmative sentence** is a sentence that affirms (rather than negates) a proposition.

Eg. He is honest.

### **2. Negative Sentence:**

A **negative sentence** states something is not true or incorrect or presents some fact by using a negative word (e.g. no, not). A negative sentence can be formed when words like **“no”, “not”, “don’t” or “doesn’t”** is added to the sentence.

Eg. Dogs do not chase after rats.

### **Interchange of affirmative and negative sentences:**

**(i) By way of using negative word with opposite adjectives, an affirmative sentence could be transformed into negative sentence.**

Affirmative: Man is mortal.

Negative: Man is not immortal.

Affirmative: He is honest.

Negative: He is not dishonest.

Affirmative: Brutus loved Caesar.

Negative: Brutus did not hate Caesar.

Affirmative: Where there is fire, there is smoke.

Negative: There is no smoke without fire.

Affirmative: Everyone distrusts a liar.

Negative: No one trusts a liar.

**(ii) By the way of changing degrees of comparison:**

Affirmative: He is as good as I am.

Negative: I am not better than he is.

Affirmative: He is the best student.

Negative: No other student is as good as he.

Affirmative: As soon as the teacher arrived, the noise ceased.

Negative: No sooner did the teacher arrive than the noise ceased.

**(iii) There are also other ways to change a affirmative sentence to a negative sentence:**

Affirmative: Only the brave deserve the fair.

Negative: None but the brave deserves the fair.

Affirmative: He is too weak to walk.

Negative: He is so weak that he cannot walk.

### 3. Assertive sentence:

An **assertive sentence** is a **sentence** that states a fact. Such sentences are simple statements. They state, assert, or declare something. They are also called **declarative sentences**. *Assertive sentences* usually end with a period or full stop.

Eg. Raju is a dedicated student.

### 4. Exclamatory sentence:

An **exclamatory sentence** makes a statement (just like a declarative **sentence**), but it also conveys excitement or emotion. An **exclamatory sentence** ends with an **exclamation mark (!)**

Eg. I just won the award!

### Interchange of assertive and exclamatory sentences:

1. It is a very nice bird.  
Excl: What a nice bird it is!
2. This was the most exciting match.  
Excl: What an exciting match this was!
3. They were the most wonderful examples.  
Excl: How wonderful examples they were!
4. The rose is a very beautiful flower.  
Excl: What a beautiful flower the rose is!
5. He plays very nicely.  
Excl: How nicely he plays!
6. The day is very hot.  
Excl: How hot the day is!
7. The sun shines very hotly.  
Excl: How hotly the sun shines.
8. It was a very lovely day.  
Excl: What a lovely day it was!
9. We loved him very warmly.  
Excl: How warmly we loved him!
10. It was a very cold day.  
Excl: What a cold day it was!
11. The cuckoo sings very sweetly.  
Excl: How sweetly the cuckoo sings!
12. China grows so fast.  
Excl: How fast China grows!
13. He works very diligently.  
Excl: How diligently he works!
14. It is a horrible night.  
Excl: What a horrible night it is!

## 5. Interrogative sentence:

An **interrogative sentence** is a sentence whose grammatical form indicates that it is a question. Interrogative questions end with a **question mark**.

Eg. How old are you?

### Interchange of assertive and interrogative sentences:

1. It was a great sight.  
Was it not a great sight?
2. No one can tolerate this.  
Can anyone tolerate this?
3. There is nothing particularly impressive about this picture.  
Is there anything particularly impressive about this picture?
4. No one worships the setting sun.  
Does anyone worship the setting sun?
5. Gulliver could hear his watch ticking in his pocket.  
Couldn't Gulliver hear his watch ticking in his pocket?
6. It is useless to cry over spilt milk.  
Is it not useless to cry over spilt milk?
7. Switzerland is known for its scenic beauty.  
Is not Switzerland known for its scenic beauty?
8. The beauty of nature is beyond description.  
Isn't the beauty of nature beyond description?
9. Everybody has heard of Darwin.  
Hasn't everybody heard of Darwin?
10. I told him to practice regularly.  
Did I not tell him to practice regularly?
11. Virtue is its own reward.  
Is not virtue its own reward?

## **TRANSFORMATION OF SENTENCES:**

### **1. Transform this it into a negative sentence.**

***Everybody is present.***

1. Nobody is absent.
2. Nobody is present.
3. Don't forget to be present.
4. Presence is mandatory!

### **2. Transform this it into an assertive sentence.**

***No one can deny that he is an intelligent person.***

1. He is an intelligent person.
2. Everyone accepts that he is an intelligent man.
3. Isn't he an intelligent man?
4. What an intelligent man he is!

### **3. Transform this it into an exclamatory sentence.**

***Your attitude is not friendly.***

1. Try to change your attitude!
2. What an unfriendly attitude you have!
3. How long do you plan to continue with this unfriendly attitude?
4. Be friendly with everyone.

### **4. Transform this it into an interrogative sentence.**

***It was not thoughtful of you to make such a statement.***

1. Do you think before making statements?
2. Isn't it good to think before you speak?
3. What were you thinking while making the statement?
4. Wasn't it thoughtless of you to make such a statement.

### **5. Transform this it into an assertive sentence.**

***How clever of you to act like that!***

1. You are a clever person.
2. Being clever affects your actions.
3. It was clever of you to act in that manner.
4. Were you being clever while acting in that way?

**6. Transform this it into a negative sentence.**

***Isn't the ball yellow in colour?***

1. The ball is not pink in colour.
2. The ball is not yellow in colour.
3. The ball should be yellow in colour!
4. The ball is yellow in colour.

**7. Transform this it into an exclamatory sentence.**

***You have a nice dress.***

1. Your dress has a nice design.
2. Did you get the dress at a discount?
3. Your dress is not bad.
4. What a nice dress you have!

**8. Transform this it into an interrogative sentence.**

***No one can tolerate this.***

1. I refuse to tolerate this!
2. Can anyone be expected to tolerate this?
3. Who is tolerating this?
4. What is required to tolerate this?

**9. Transform this it into an assertive sentence.**

***Is this not a reward in itself?***

1. This is not rewarding me.
2. Rewards are hard to come by.
3. This is a reward in itself.
4. Don't do it for only the reward.

**10. Transform this it into a negative sentence.**

***I am dissatisfied with the way things are progressing.***

1. I am not satisfied with the way things are progressing.
2. Am I to be satisfied with the way things are progressing?
3. I want to be satisfied with the way things are progressing.
4. I don't know if I am to be satisfied with the way things are progressing.

## ANSWER KEY

1. a) Nobody is absent.
2. b) Everyone accepts that he is an intelligent man.
3. b) What an unfriendly attitude you have!
4. d) Wasn't it thoughtless of you to make such a statement?
5. c) It was clever of you to act in that manner.
6. a) The ball is not pink in colour.
7. d) What a nice dress you have!
8. b) Can anyone be expected to tolerate this?
9. c) This is a reward in itself.
10. a) I am not satisfied with the way things are progressing.