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1. You **may not** go swimming today. (non-permission)

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2. You **mustn't** go swimming today. (obligation-not-to)

(E)

7.43 Statements, questions, commands, exclamations: Simple sentences may be divided into four major syntactic classes, whose use correlates with different communicative functions:

(1) **Statements** are sentences in which the subject is always present and generally precedes the verb, as in:

1. John will speak to the boss today.

(2) **Questions** are sentences marked by one or more of these three criteria:

(a) the placing of the operator immediately in front of the subject:

1. Will John speak to the boss today?

(b) the initial positioning of an interrogative or *wh*-element:

2. Who will you speak to?

(c) rising intonation:

3. You will speak to the boss?

(3) **Commands** are sentences which normally have no overt grammatical subject, and whose verb is in the imperative:

1. Speak to the boss today.

(4) **Exclamations** are sentences which have an initial phrase introduced by **what** or **how**, without inversion of subject and operator:

1. What a noise they are making!

(30)

7.44 Questions: Questions can be divided into **three** major classes according to the type of answer they expect:

1. those that expect only affirmation or rejection, as in:

a. Have you finished the book?

b. Yes, I have, or

c. No, I haven't.

2. those that expect a reply supplying an item of information, as in:

a. What is your name?

b. How old are you?

3. those that expect as the reply one of two or more options presented in the question are alternative questions, as in:

a. Would you like to go for a WALK or stay at HOME?

N.B. Type(1) above is called **Yes-No** questions.

Type (2) is called **Wh**-questions.

Type(3) is called **Alternative** questions.

7.45 Yes-no questions: Yes-no questions are usually formed by placing the operator before the subject and giving the sentence a rising intonation, as in:

1a. The boat has LEFT.

b. Has the boat LEFT?

N.B. If there is no item in the verb phrase that can function as operator, **do** is introduced as with negation, as in:

1a. He **likes** Mary.

b. **Does** he like Mary?

N.B. Have acts as operator in BrE., as in:

1a. He has a car.

b. Does he have a car?(AmE)

c. Has he(got)a car?(BrE)

7.46 Positive orientation: Another typical characteristic of yes-no questions is the use of the non-assertive forms **any, ever**, etc. that we have already seen in operation in negative statements, as in:

1a. **Someone** called last night.

b. Did **anyone** call last night?

2a. I suppose **some** of the class will be already here.

b. Do you suppose **any** of the class will be here yet?

N.B. A question may be presented in a form which is biased towards a positive or negative answer. A question has positive orientation if it uses assertive forms rather than the usual non-assertive forms, as in:

1. Did **someone** call last night?(=Is it true that **someone** called last night?)

2. Has the boat left **already**?

3. Do you live **somewhere** near Dover?

4. Would you like **some** cake?

Notice that these questions indicate that the speaker thinks that the answer is **yes**: he merely asks for confirmation of that assumption.

7.47 Negative orientation: Negative orientation is found in questions which contain a negative form of one kind or another; notice:

1. **Can't** you give us **any** hope of success? (=Is it really true that you can't...?)

2. **Isn't** your car working?

3. **Does no** one believe me?

N.B. Negative-oriented questions often express disappointment or annoyance:

1. **Can't** you drive straight? (=I'd have thought you'd be able to, but apparently you can't).

2. **Aren't** you ashamed of yourself? (=You ought to be, but it appears you're not).

3. **Hasn't** the boat left yet? (=I'd hoped it would have left by now, but it seems that it hasn't).

N.B. Some negative questions combine **not** with the assertive items which are the formal signals of positive orientation, as we see in:

1. **Didn't someone** call last night?

2. **Hasn't** the boat left **already**?

7.48 Tag questions: The tag question consists of operator plus pronoun, with or without a negative particle; the choice and tense of the

operator are determined by the verb phrase in the superordinate clause:

- 1.The boat hasn't left, **has it?**
- 2.Joan recognised you, **didn't she?**

N.B. Notice that if the superordinate clause is positive,the tag is negative, and vice versa.

N.B. There are **four** main types of tag question:

- 1.Positive+Negative:He likes his JOB, DOESN't he?
- 2.Negative+Positive:He doesn't like his JOB,DOES he?
- 3.Positive+Negative:He likes his JOB, DOESN't he?
- 4.Negative+Positive:He doesn't like his JOB,DOES he?

We may distinguish the four types as:

- 1.Positive assumption+neutral expectation
- 2.Negative assumption+neutral expectation
- 3.Positive assumption+positive expectation
- 4.Negative assumption+negative expectation

N.B. Sometimes both the statement and the question are positive:

- 1.Your car is outSIDE, is it?
- 2.You've had an ACCident,HAVE you?

7.50 Declarative questions: It is a type of yes-no question identical in form to a statement except for the final rising question intonation:

1. You've got the exPLOsive?
2. They've spoken to the ambAssador?
3. You realize what the RISKS are?
4. Boris will be THERE, I suppose?
5. He didn't finish the RACE?

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7.51 Yes-no questions with modal auxiliaries: Notice that the modals of 'permission', i.e. **may**, especially in BrE, and **can** and of 'obligation', i.e. **must**, especially BrE, and **have to** involve the speaker's authority in statements and the listener's authority in questions, as in:

1a. May I leave now?

b. Can I leave now?

c. Yes, you may.

d. Yes, you can.

2a. Must I leave now?

b. Do I have to leave now?

c. Yes, you must.

d. Yes, you have to.

N.B. A switch from listener to speaker takes place with **shall** ('volition') which (especially in BrE) implicates the speaker's will in statements, but the listener's will in questions, as we see in: