

Common Interjections

Activity Sheet (page 1/2)

Interjections are words or exclamations that are used to express strong feelings. They are often followed by an exclamation mark when written but are more commonly used in everyday speech. Although they can be extremely expressive, Interjections are not grammatically linked to the sentences they are used with.

A. Circle the Interjection that belongs with each of the sentences below.

1. This coffee's far too hot. I've burnt my tongue.
a. Ouch! b. Oops! c. Phew!
2. Sorry. I wasn't looking where I was going. I'll buy you another coffee.
a. Wow! b. Hmm. c. Oops!
3. That dessert looks absolutely revolting!
a. Yuck! b. Yum! c. Brr!
4. You'll wake the baby if you're not careful.
a. Phew! b. Shh! c. Hmm.
5. This pie is delicious! Can I have another slice?
a. Ouch! b. Yuck! c. Yum!
6. It's like a freezer in here. We'd better turn up the heating.
a. Brr! b. Hmm. c. Phew!
7. I wonder where I put my glasses. I thought they were in my bag.
a. Oops! b. Wow! c. Hmm.
8. That's my bike. Get your hands off it!
a. Wow! b. Hey! c. Hmm.
9. If we'd arrived any later, we would have missed the train.
a. Ouch! b. Shh! c. Phew!
10. I've never met a six-month-old baby that could walk before. That's amazing!
a. Wow! b. Phew! c. Yum!

B. Match the Interjections from Exercise A with their correct uses below.

1. expresses awe or surprise
2. acknowledges mistakes
3. indicates thinking
4. shows that one is cold
5. expresses feeling pain
6. shows that food tastes good
7. gets someone's attention
8. expresses disgust
9. requests silence
10. shows relief

C. Talk with a partner. Do you use these any of these Interjections in your own language? If not, which words do you use to express these feelings?

D. Use one of the Interjections from the previous page at the beginning of each sentence, plus one of the words in the box below. Remember to use suitable punctuation.

train milk stepped passed like jacket private careful chocolate about

1. This smells disgusting. I think it's gone off.
2. I was worried that I hadn't the exam. I'm so relieved!
3. It's a chilly evening! I wish I'd worn a warmer
4. That really hurt. You should be more
5. I'm not sure. Let me think it.
6. This cake looks delicious! You must give me the recipe.
7. This is property. Get out now!
8. This portrait you painted is incredible. It looks just her.
9. Sorry! Was that your foot I on?
10. This is a *silent* carriage. You can't talk on the phone in here.

E. Create sentences of your own, beginning with some of these Interjections.

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.

When you've completed your sentences, work in groups of three, with one of you acting the 'reader', and the other two students acting as 'players'. Without saying the Interjection, the 'reader' reads out each of their sentences. The 'players' must then race to guess and say the missing Interjection. The first person to do so gets a point.

Once the 'reader' has read out all their sentences, it is another person's turn to be the 'reader' for the other two students to guess the missing Interjections in their sentences. Afterwards, repeat the activity with the third student acting as 'reader'.

Once you've all had a chance to be the 'reader', add up your points. The person with the most points is the winner.