



EL IMPERATIVO EN ESTILO INDIRECTO. (COMMANDS)

▪ El imperativo es el modo que se ha asociado normalmente con las órdenes, peticiones o mandatos. Sin embargo también puede utilizarse para invitar, aconsejar o sugerir, como sucede en español.

▪ Observa los siguientes ejemplos:

A) John: “*Mandy, be quiet!*” (Direct Speech)

John **told** Mandy **to be quiet**. (Reported Speech).

B) Sean (to Margaret) : “*Come in and have a drink!*”

Sean **told/asked** Margaret **to come in and (to) have a drink**

C) Laura: “Bill, go to the doctor and make sure you’re ok”

Laura **told** Bill **to go to doctor to make sure he was ok**.

D) Ivan: “*Take a look at my essay, please. Just to make sure it’s correct*”

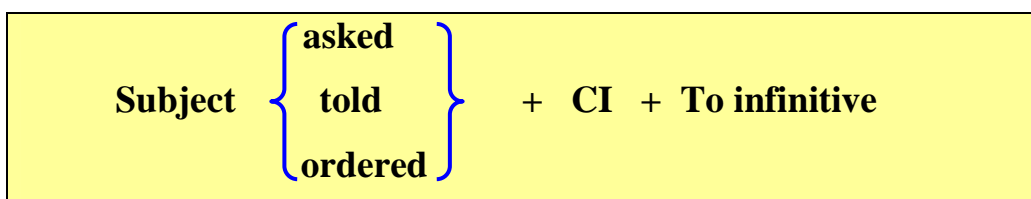
Ivan **told me to** take a look at his essay to make sure it was correct

Como puedes ver en los cuatro ejemplos se ha utilizado el imperativo para manifestar tres funciones lingüísticas diferentes: orden (**command**), invitación (**invitation**), consejo (**advice**) y petición educada (**polite request**)

▪ ¿ **Cómo se cambia el Imperativo a estilo Indirecto?**

Se forma habitualmente con los verbos introductorios **ask** o **tell** (ask también significa pedir) + Complemento Indirecto (la persona a quien se pide) + Infinitivo con **To**

Se puede utilizar el verbo **order**, pero con un matiz bastante más directivo que los otros dos.





Ej: *“Our parents told us to be back home by 11:30 pm.”*

“ My host family asked me to cook some typical Spanish food for them”

“ His boss ordered him to be on time”

La **forma negativa del imperativo** se forma negando el infinitivo con la partícula **not** delante del infinitivo.

A) Mariah: *“Don’t make the beds, Leanne . I want to wash the sheets.”*

Mariah asked Leanne **not to make** the beds, as she wanted to wash the sheets.

B) Psychologist: *“don’t worry, you’ve got the right to feel that way”*

The psychologist told his patient **not to worry**, because he had the right...

▪ **Existen otras formas de expresar orden, o petición, distintas a las del Imperativo, y que ,sin embargo, al reproducirlas en estilo Indirecto mantienen la estructura de infinitivo.**

Paul: *“Monique, marry me!”*

Paul: *“Monique, will you marry me?”*

Paul asked/told Monique to marry him

PRACTICE.-

× Structure: Subject + $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{asked} \\ \text{told} \end{array} \right\}$ someone + (not) To Infinitive

→ Anna said: *“Don’t worry!”* *Anna told Anna not to worry*

→ Anna said: *“Jean, come here”* *Anna asked Jean to go there*



PRACTICE .- *What would I do without you, Ann?*¹

Reported speech: Commands and Requests

Mr Jones calls Ann into his office and gives her some instructions. She then returns to the main office and tells a colleague what she has been asked to do.

A: *Would you please file these letters?*

B: *He asked/told me to file them.*

Use **a** for this, **some** for these and **his** for my.

Would you please . . .



- 1 copy this contract?
- 2 correct this spelling mistake?
- 3 add something to this letter?
- 4 pin up these notices in the canteen?
- 5 look up our main provider's address?
- 6 order some more paperclips?
- 7 contact our American branch?
- 8 send this report to our head office?
- 9 check these figures?
- 10 bring your recorder to the meeting?
- 11 type out a full report?
- 12 put these documents in my case?
- 13 lock my dispatch case?

- 1.-
- 2.-
- 3.-
- 4.-
- 5.-
- 6.-
- 7.-
- 8.-
- 9.-
- 10.-
- 11.-
- 12.-
- 13.-

¹ Adapted activity taken from: A practical English Grammar, Thomson and Martinet, Oxford.



14 leave the key on my desk?

14.-

15 take these books back to the library?

15.-

16 tell my wife I won't be home tonight?

16.-

17 advertise for a new office boy?

17.-

18.- book two plane tickets for Paris ?

18.-