3. the flying saucer
4. the oldest house in town
5. prepares delicious Korean food
6. growled and bared its teeth
7. the shiny red car and the bicycle
8. caught a huge fish
9. can borrow your skates
10. the best tacos and enchiladas in town

Kinds of Sentences

Sentences may be classified according to purpose.

10h. A declarative sentence makes a statement and ends with a period.
EXAMPLES Our media center has several computers.
Patrick Henry lived in Virginia.

10i. An imperative sentence gives a command or makes a request. Most imperative sentences end with a period. A strong command ends with an exclamation point.
EXAMPLES Please pass the potatoes. [request]
Sit down. [command]
Stop shouting! [strong command]

The subject of a command or a request is always you, even if the word you never appears in the sentence. In such cases, you is called the understood subject.
EXAMPLES [You] Please pass the potatoes.
[You] Stop shouting!

10j. An interrogative sentence asks a question and ends with a question mark.
EXAMPLES Did the Apollo 13 spacecraft reach the moon?
How old are you?
10k. An **exclamatory sentence** shows excitement or expresses strong feeling and ends with an exclamation point.

**EXAMPLES**  What a difficult assignment that was!  
I got her autograph!

**Exercise 14** **Classifying Sentences by Purpose**

Write each of the following sentences, and add an appropriate end mark. Identify the sentence as **declarative**, **interrogative**, **imperative**, or **exclamatory**.

**EXAMPLE**  1. What a funny show that was  
   1. *What a funny show that was!*—exclamatory

1. Please help me find my umbrella.  
   1. *imp.*
2. How happy I am!  
   2. *exc.*
3. Have you and your sister been to the new video store on Congress Avenue?  
   3. *int.*
4. Go east for three blocks, and look for a yellow mailbox next to a red door.  
   4. *imp.*
5. My father and I are cleaning the attic together later this afternoon.  
   5. *dec.*
6. What a delicious salad this is!  
   6. *exc.*
7. During our last summer vacation, we toured the garment district in New York City.  
   7. *dec.*
8. Do you like barbecued chicken?  
   8. *int.*
9. My surprise visit last month pleased both my grandmother and Aunt Gabriela.  
   9. *dec.*
10. When is your next piano lesson?  
   10. *int.*

**Review** **Classifying Sentences by Purpose**

For each of the sentences on the following page, add an appropriate end mark. Then, identify each sentence as **declarative**, **imperative**, **interrogative**, or **exclamatory**.

**EXAMPLE**  1. Have you ever seen the Grand Canyon  
   1. *Have you ever seen the Grand Canyon?*—interrogative

**STYLE TIP**

Be careful not to overuse exclamation points in your writing. Save them for sentences that really do show strong emotion. When used too much, exclamation points lose their effect.

**OVERUSED**

For her birthday, Katy’s parents threw her a bowling party! About twenty friends and family members attended, and we all had a great time! I had two strikes in one game!

**IMPROVED**

For her birthday, Katy’s parents threw her a bowling party. About twenty friends and family members attended, and we all had a great time. I had two strikes in one game!
1. We enjoyed our vacation in the Southwest
2. Dad took these photographs when our family visited the Grand Canyon
3. Our guide spoke both Spanish and English
4. How pretty the sunset is
5. Don’t stand so close to the edge
6. Did you buy any turquoise-and-silver jewelry
7. It was quite chilly at night
8. What a great movie we saw about the canyon
9. Did you take the short hike or the long one
10. Look at us riding on mules in this canyon

In any kind of writing, correct end punctuation is important. However, it is especially important in written conversations. The punctuation helps a reader know how a speaker says something. A sentence can mean very different things when its end punctuation is changed. Try reading the following sentences aloud to hear the difference.

DECLARATIVE
He’s my hero.

INTERROGATIVE
He’s my hero?

EXCLAMATORY
He’s my hero!