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The sentence B2

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The sentence

Questions

'How long'

<p>▶ 'How long' is used with all tenses to ask questions about duration.</p>	<p><u>Example:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How long are you staying?• How long does it have to cook?• How long have we been skiing?
<p>▶ Similar questions may be asked using 'how long' + the expression 'it takes (someone)' in all tenses, or using 'how long' + 'it' + conjugated 'be'.</p>	<p><u>Example:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How long did it take you to do this?• How long will it take before I get the money?• How long will it be before we get there? <p>How long has it been since he left</p>

'How long' – Exercise – The right word

How _____ do you want to stay for? Three nights?

much – long - many

Short answers

Uses of 'so'

<p>▶ 'So' + adjective or adverb is used to express an exclamation.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Why is this taking so long?• Don't be so sensitive! <p>Note: 'So' may introduce 'that' clauses in which 'that' may be understood.</p> <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• He was driving so fast that he went through a red light.
<p>▶ 'So' may be used to introduce a clause.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• So you found a job?• It's 100% coverage, so it is particularly attractive.
<p>▶ 'So' may replace a clause in an elliptical sentence or in tags.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We thank you for flying with us and hope you'll do so again.• He's late, and so am I.• I don't think so. <p>Note: Use of 'so' is impossible in certain negative elliptical clauses. In such cases, 'not' is used and goes after the verb.</p> <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Do you think he's going to come?• I hope not.

The sentence – B2 level

Uses of 'so' – Exercise - The right word

I really don't _____ .

think so - so - sew - know so - hear so – sow

Uses of 'so' – Exercise – Sentence practice

Answer the question as in the example:

It's very difficult. I can't understand it.	It's so difficult that I can't understand it.
New York is very big. He can't find his way around it.	
The city is very crowded. She goes to the country every weekend.	
The traffic is horrible. They take the subway.	

Uses of 'so' – Exercise – Word order

so - conversations - your - are - always - serious.

Comparisons

Similarity: 'like' and 'as'

- ▶ The preposition 'like' introduces **nominal groups** and **pronouns**.

Example:

- **Like** most **students**, I love pizza.
- I wish I had a garden **like that**.

- ▶ The conjunction 'as' introduces **clauses**.

Example:

- Some women felt **as I did** about it.

Note: 'As' may also precede nouns designating **titles** and **functions**.

Example:

- I am the company's manager and am therefore acting **as** legal representative.
- He worked **as** a taxi driver.



Degrees of qualification

To **emphasize** something in a **positive** way, you can use **adverbs** to modify **adjectives** or **past participles**. These structures express degrees of qualification.

<p>➔ 'very'</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You've been very helpful. The children are very excited tonight.
<p>➔ 'most' or 'so'</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The setting under the dome is most effective. Your parents are so nice to me.

➔ You can also use the **superlative form** '-est' + 'of'.

Example:

- They were **the oldest of** friends.

➔ To **emphasize** something in a **negative** way, use 'not very', 'far from', or 'less than'.

Example:

- I can see you're **not very happy** today.
- Her joke was **far from funny**.
- The noise is **less than reassuring**.

Degrees of qualification – Exercise- sentence practice

Answer the question as in the example:

It's very difficult. I can't understand it.	It's so difficult that I can't understand it.
This job pays well. I can stop playing the lottery.	
The benefits are excellent. I think I'll stay.	
The competition was fierce. I didn't think I'd be hired.	

Direct indirect speech

The sequence of tenses

The **sequence of tenses** is constructed as follows:

- ➔ In **indirect speech**: when the verb of the **main clause** is a verb expressing opinion or a declaration (to think, to say, to tell...). In the **simple present** or in the **preterite**, the verb of the dependent clause is conjugated as follows:

Main	dependent
Present	present <i>or</i> future <i>or</i> present perfect
Preterite	preterite <i>or</i> conditional <i>or</i> past perfect

Example:

Main	Dependent	Dependent - clause tense
He says He said	it doesn't matter it didn't matter	Present Preterite
I think We thought	it will be fun it would rain	Future Conditional
I know I knew	you've tried you had tried	past perfect past perfect

- ➔ With **dependent clauses** introduced by **that** or a **relative pronoun**: when the **main clause** is in the **preterite**, the verb of the dependent clause is conjugated normally in the **preterite**.

Example:

- We **were** the ones **who did** it.
- It **was** on Saturday **that it happened** to him.

Note: When **that** is used in **indirect speech**, the dependent verb **follows the rule** of agreement of indirect speech (it doesn't necessarily have to be in the preterite).

The sentence – B2 level

The sequence of tenses – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite as in the example:

Keith says he went to the airport.	Keith said he had gone to the airport.
Barry tells you there's another flight in an hour.	
Paul hopes the meeting won't start early.	
Becky says she's going to take a train.	



Infinitive clauses

Verb + infinitive clause

- ➡ The **infinitive clause**, which may **follow** any **verb** that expresses its subject's **command, wish, interdiction, preference**, is formed using **verb + object noun** or **pronoun + infinitive**.
- ➡ The following verbs are normally **active** when they introduce **infinitive clauses**: 'to want', 'to like', 'to love', 'to wish', 'to get', and 'to cause'.

Example:

- He **wants John to rent** a replacement vehicle.
- When **would you like your car to be** ready?

- ➡ The following verbs may be **active** or **passive** when they introduce **infinitive clauses**: 'to intend', 'to mean', 'to force', 'to compel', 'to order', 'to forbid', and 'to expect'.

Example:

- He **ordered the prisoners to be freed**.
- He **was ordered to pay** at once.

Note: 'Not' precedes the infinitive.

Example:

- He **expects you not to say** anything.

Verb + infinitive clause – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite the following sentences as in the example:

The seminar will go well. (I want)	I want the seminar to go well.
The computer will be a powerful one. (I want)	
You will welcome the delegates. (I would like)	
We'll wait for the latecomers. (we don't want)	

Infinitive clauses

A **verb** taking as its **object** an **infinitive clause** must convey a **close relation** between its subject and that of the **infinitive clause** itself.

'To ask', 'to expect' and 'to want' are examples of verbs that may introduce **infinitive clauses**. When an **infinitive clause's subject** is a **pronoun**, the **pronoun** itself is an **object** of the sentence's main **verb**.

<p>➡ 'For' introduces some infinitive clauses.</p> <p>Note: In an infinitive clause, any expression of negation precedes the infinitive.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'll ask my secretary to fax you.• Do you expect him to pay more?• She'd like for me to go with you. <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• He advised me not to wait.
<p>➡ 'For' precedes infinitive clauses expressing goals.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I brought this book for you to read.
<p>➡ 'For' may also precede objective infinitive clauses that do not express goals.</p> <p>Note: 'For' + gerund ('-ing' verb) introduces clauses expressing cause. However, this form is not considered an infinitive clause.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• I'm waiting for the rain to stop. <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• He was punished for forgetting to do his homework.

The sentence – B2 level

<p>➔ Question words followed by the infinitive can be used to ask for information in a direct or indirect way.</p> <p>Note: The question words what, which, how many, and how much are sometimes followed by a noun.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I'm not sure how to find the offices from here. • Could you let me know when to start my presentation? • Have we decided how much to spend on advertising? • I don't know what to do about the problem. • No one was told where to go. <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can you tell me which train to take? • We don't know what tasks to do first. • She didn't say how much time to spend on the report.
<p>➔ The infinitive can also be preceded by whether.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geena hasn't decided whether to come or not.
<p>➔ Also note that the question word why cannot be followed by the infinitive.</p>	

Infinitive clauses – Exercise - Fill in the blanks

You're in charge of conducting a _____ survey on _____ equipment for small _____.

You work by _____ or meet people in _____.

You have to call _____ companies in one day.

You _____ your secretary to _____ the contact details. Hopefully she has all the _____ at hand!

thirty - person - ask - find - companies - information - phone - office – market

The sentence – B2 level

Infinitive clauses – Exercise - Fill in the blanks

Rewrite the following sentences as in the example:

The seminar will go well. (I want)	I want the seminar to go well.
We'll send someone to help. (they asked)	
The delegates will be satisfied. (I expect)	
They will learn a lot. (I want)	

Infinitive clauses – Exercise – Text transformation

Rewrite the text using the appropriate tense and mood:

What company is this man representing, I (to wonder)? I think I'll wait here (to find out). However, I would have preferred (to not wait). It (to seem) that this man is being congratulated for (to organize) the seminar. I bet he was expected (to work) very hard to prepare for it. I would be interested (to know) more about the speaker's company.

Dependent clauses

'That' and dependent clauses

<p>➤ Verbs of knowledge, perception, opinion, agreement, affirmation, assumption, remembrance, forgetting, hope, surprise, and fear may precede dependent clauses introduced by 'that.' 'That' is often omitted.</p> <p>Note: Such dependent clauses can be elliptical.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you think (that) Japan can outmatch the United States? • They're saying (that) the sea's going to be very rough for three days. <p>Example: I don't like dogs. I know you don't.</p>
<p>➤ Main verbs expressing assumptions, suggestions, and requests necessitate use of the subjunctive mood in the explanatory dependent clauses (introduced by 'that') that follow them.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He insists that she come.
<p>➤ Following a verb like 'to tell,' 'to remind,' or 'to inform,' a 'that' clause can be preceded by the object of the main verb.</p> <p>Note: When the verb in such a case is 'to explain,' 'to' precedes the indirect object.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He told me that she was ill. <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I explained to them that it would be a good idea to go to Spain.

The sentence – B2 level

'That' and dependent clauses – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite as in the example:

'I'm an engineer', he said.	He said that he was an engineer.
He remarked, 'I only work mornings'.	
He said, 'I start at 9 am'.	
'It's a good schedule,' he concluded.	

'That' and dependent clauses – Exercise – Text transformation

Add the word "that" wherever possible:

I think this training course is going to help my career. I heard you have better prospects and you can get more stimulating jobs when you speak a foreign language. I'm sure talking with people is the best way to learn English. I think I'll enjoy studying in the United States and I intend to make the most of it. I'm afraid I won't be able to go home for a while, but that doesn't matter. Even though it will be a big adventure, I admit I'm a bit scared.

The impersonal structure

The impersonal structure

An **impersonal structure**, used to talk about **people in general**, is constructed as follows:

<p>A - The passive form without the agent. This is only possible if the active sentence contains a direct object.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The castle was built in 1478. (Active sentence: Somebody built the castle in 1478.) We are expected at 7 o'clock. (Active sentence: Someone expects us at 7 o'clock.)
<p>B - The personal pronouns we, you, they.</p> <p>➔ We when the speaker is included in the group of people in question.</p> <p>➔ You when the listener is included in the group of people in question, but the speaker, in general, isn't.</p> <p>➔ They when neither the speaker nor listener are included in the group of people in question.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We drive on the left side of the road. (In this case, the speaker is British.) <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You drink a lot of tea in Britain. (In this case, the listener is British.) <p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> They are very friendly in Ireland.
<p>C - People (plural meaning), somebody / someone (singular meaning).</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> People think he's funny. Someone's on the phone for you.
<p>D - The indefinite pronoun one in proverbs or other expressions of that type.</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One never knows. (More familiar: You never know.)
<p>E - There is + noun with a verbal meaning</p>	<p>Example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a knock at the door.

The sentence – B2 level

The impersonal structure – Exercise - Sentence practice

Put the following sentences in the passive voice:

Someone evaluates the budget.	The budget is evaluated.
Someone renegotiates interest rates.	
Someone reworks the payment schedule.	
Somebody offers a lower salary.	

The impersonal structure – Exercise – Text transformation

Put the following text into the second person singular:

People say that money really motivates, but they can never be sure, can they? In Andrew and Company, where you work, one can see that sales are sluggish. One never knows what the consequences of these problems could be, does one? Somebody has commented that they have severe financial losses. One is aware that things are going badly as soon as one arrives in the offices.



The sentence – Solutions

Questions – Solution(s)

'How long' – Solution(s)

'How long' – Exercise – The right word

How **long** do you want to stay for? Three nights?

.....

Short answers – Solution(s)

Uses of 'so' – Solution(s)

Uses of 'so' – Exercise - The right word

I really don't **think so**.

Uses of 'so' – Exercises – Sentence practice

Answer the question as in the example:

It's very difficult. I can't understand it.	It's so difficult that I can't understand it.
New York is very big. He can't find his way around it.	New York is so big that he can't find his way around it.
The city is very crowded. She goes to the country every weekend.	The city is so crowded that she goes to the country every weekend.
The traffic is horrible. They take the subway.	The traffic is so horrible that they take the subway.

Uses of 'so' – Exercise – Word order

Your conversations are always so serious.

.....

Comparisons – Solution(s)

Degrees of qualification – Solution(s)

Degrees of qualification – Exercise- Sentence practice

Answer the question as in the example:

It's very difficult. I can't understand it.	It's so difficult that I can't understand it.
This job pays well. I can stop playing the lottery.	This job pays so well that I can stop playing the lottery.
The benefits are excellent. I think I'll stay.	The benefits are so excellent that I think I'll stay.
The competition was fierce. I didn't think I'd be hired.	The competition was so fierce that I didn't think I'd be hired.

Direct indirect speech – Solution(s)

The sequence of tenses – Solution(s)

The sequence of tenses – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite as in the example:

Keith says he went to the airport.	Keith said he had gone to the airport.
Barry tells you there's another flight in an hour.	Barry told you there was another flight in an hour.
Paul hopes the meeting won't start early.	Paul hoped the meeting wouldn't start early.
Becky says she's going to take a train.	Becky said she was going to take a train.

.....

Infinitive clauses – Solution(s)

Verb + infinitive clause – Solution(s)

Verb + infinitive clause – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite the following sentences as in the example:

The seminar will go well. (I want)	I want the seminar to go well.
The computer will be a powerful one. (I want)	I want the computer to be a powerful one.
You will welcome the delegates. (I would like)	I would like you to welcome the delegates. I would like for you to welcome the delegates.
We'll wait for the latecomers. (we don't want)	We don't want to wait for the latecomers.

Infinitive clauses – Solution(s)

Infinitive clauses – Exercise- Fill in the blanks

You're in charge of conducting a market survey on office equipment for small companies.

You work by **phone** or meet people in **person**.

You have to call **thirty** companies in one day.

You **ask** your secretary to **find** the contact details. Hopefully she has all the **information** at hand!

Infinitive clauses – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite the following sentences as in the example:

The seminar will go well. (I want)	I want the seminar to go well.
We'll send someone to help. (they asked)	They asked us to send someone to help.
The delegates will be satisfied. (I expect)	I expect the delegates to be satisfied
They will learn a lot. (I want)	I want them to learn a lot.

Infinitive clauses – Exercise – Text transformation

Rewrite the text using the appropriate tense and mood:

What company is this man representing, I (to wonder)? I think I'll wait here (to find out). However, I would have preferred (to not wait). It (to seem) that this man is being congratulated for (to organize) the seminar. I bet he was expected (to work) very hard to prepare for it. I would be interested (to know) more about the speaker's company.

What company is this man representing, I wonder? I think I'll wait here to find out. However, I would have preferred not to wait. It seems that this man is being congratulated for organizing the seminar. I bet he was expected to work very hard to prepare for it. I would be interested to know more about the speaker's company.

Dependent clauses – Solution(s)

'That' and dependent clauses – Solution(s)

'That' and dependent clauses – Exercise – Sentence practice

Rewrite as in the example:

'I'm an engineer', he said.	He said that he was an engineer.
He remarked, 'I only work mornings'.	He remarked that he only worked mornings.
He said, 'I start at 9 a.m.'.	He said that he started at 9 a.m. He said he started at 9 a.m.
'It's a good schedule,' he concluded.	He concluded that it was a good schedule. He concluded it was a good schedule.

The sentence – B2 level

'That' and dependent clauses – Exercise – Text transformation

Add the word "that" wherever possible:

I think this training course is going to help my career. I heard you have better prospects and you can get more stimulating jobs when you speak a foreign language. I'm sure talking with people is the best way to learn English. I think I'll enjoy studying in the United States and I intend to make the most of it. I'm afraid I won't be able to go home for a while, but that doesn't matter. Even though it will be a big adventure, I admit I'm a bit scared.

I think that this training course is going to help my career. I heard that you have better prospects and that you can get more stimulating jobs when you speak a foreign language. I'm sure that talking with people is the best way to learn English. I think that I'll enjoy studying in the United States and I intend to make the most of it. I'm afraid that I won't be able to go home for a while, but that doesn't matter. Even though it will be a big adventure, I admit that I'm a bit scared.

The impersonal structure – Solution(s)

The impersonal structure – Solution(s)

The impersonal structure – Exercise - Sentence practice

Put the following sentences in the passive voice:

Someone evaluates the budget.	The budget is evaluated.
Someone renegotiates interest rates.	Interest rates are renegotiated.
Someone reworks the payment schedule.	The payment schedule is reworked.
Somebody offers a lower salary.	A lower salary is offered.

The impersonal structure – Exercise – Text transformation

Put the following text into the second person singular:

People say that money really motivates, but they can never be sure, can they? In Andrew and Company, where you work, one can see that sales are sluggish. One never knows what the consequences of these problems could be, does one? Somebody has commented that they have severe financial losses. One is aware that things are going badly as soon as one arrives in the offices.

You say that money really motivates, but you can never be sure, can you? In Andrew and Company, where you work, you can see that sales are sluggish. You never know what the consequences of these problems could be, do you? You have commented that you have severe financial losses. You are aware that things are going badly as soon as you arrive in the offices.

.....

ENGLISH

SPANISH

FRENCH

GERMAN

ITALIAN

DUTCH

