

THE INTERJECTION

What is an Interjection?

Definition: An Interjection is a word which is used to express a sudden or strong feeling.

Study the following examples:

Oh, what a lie! Oh, is that so? Oh, I did not know. (Surprise; pain, etc.)

O dear met O yes! O King, live for ever!

Note: Oh! is used when a punctuation mark immediately follows. O is used when no punctuation mark follows immediately after it. (Exception: Oh dear, what a mess!)

Ah! this is just what I wanted. (Satisfaction; surprise; sorrow, etc.)

Hm! I shall have to think that over. (Non-agreement)

Alas, my poor dog is dead! (Grief)

Hurrah, the holidays are here! (Joy)

Hallo! Where do you come from ? (Greeting; surprise)

Bravo! that was well deme. (Approval)

Ha! Ha! that was funny. (Amusement)

Tut-tut! (Pooh! Stuff! Pshaw! Pish! Tosh! Bosh!) What nonsense! (Contempt)

Hark! the bells are ringing. (Command to listen)

Hist! I hear someone coming. (Command to be silent)

Phew! what an awful smell. (Disgust)

Note: Other parts of speech may also be used as interjections, eg.

Verbs: Hear! hear!

Nouns: Fool! Dunce!

Adjectives: Wonderful! Strange! Awful!

ORAL EXERCISE EXERCISES

Fill in the correct interjections:

1. ____! you are hurting me.
2. -----! it's cold this morning.
3. ____! what a horrible smell.
4. ____! I was not aware of that.
5.__dear me! I have forgotten to post the letter.
6. ____! she is sleeping.
- 7.....! my cat has been run over and killed.
8. ____! that will be a treat.
9.__! what a horrible sight.
10. ____! you are nothing but a coward.

PHEW
BAH
AH
ALAS
OUCH
O
HUSH
UGH
BRR
OH