

Sentence Transformation

1. passive-active forms

→ vedi schemi POI !...

2. direct / indirect speech

→ vedi schemi

He said: "I **am** tired."

He **said** he **was** tired.

He **says** he is....

She said: "**tomorrow** I'm seeing a doctor."

She said [that] she was seeing the doctor **the day after**.

He asked: "give it to **me!**"

He asked to give it to **him**.

... però ricorda:

warn, recommend, tell, order, advise, invite, encourage, remind, persuade
(+ person + infinitive with 'to')

'Don't forget to buy the bread!', he said to us = He reminded us to buy the bread

'Don't touch my watch!', he told her = He told her not to touch his watch

admit ...-ing, deny ...-ing, apologise for ...-ing, accuse sb of ...-ing

'I didn't take the money', he said = He denied taking the money

'We are sorry we are late', they said = They apologised for being late

suggest + person + should + infinitive without 'to'

'I think **you'd better** stay in bed', she said = She suggested I should stay in bed

suggest + gerund

'How about going to the theatre for a change?', he said = He suggested going to the cinema for a change

pretend, offer, refuse, promise (+ infinitive)

'Don't worry, I'll look after your plants carefully', she told me = She promised to look after my plants carefully

3. comparison - comparative / superlative

the yellow t-shirt is more expensive than the blue one.

the blue t-shirt is less expensive than the yellow one

the blue t-shirt is cheaper....

the blue t-shirt is NOT AS AS

ricorda:

I have never seen a more beautiful view = The view is the most beautiful I have ever seen

4. causative 'have'

Has anybody told your fortune? = have you ever had your fortune told?

Mr Clamp repaired my car last week = I had my car repaired last week ...

I had my hair done....

5. make / must / let / allow / ...

My mother makes me go to bed early = I must go to bed early

I'm not allowed to eat sweet things = They don't **allow** me **to** eat sweet things

My mother doesn't **let** me **go** out with Mark = I am not allowed to go out with Mark

6. -ing / -ed

The film was very **boring** for us = we were (very) **bored** by the film = we found the film very boring

The **news was** very exciting for everybody = everybody was very excited by the news

7. transitive / intransitive uses of verbs

I stopped the car = the car stopped

He burnt his hands in the flames = the flames burnt his hands

8. if ... not / unless

If I don't pass the exam, I won't be able to go to university = Unless I pass the exam....
If you don't listen, you won't understand! = Unless you listen...

9. if only / I wish

If only I had some money = I wish I had some money
If only I hadn't said that = I wish I hadn't said that

parentesi CONDIZIONALI...

10. in case

I'll take an umbrella with me in case it rains = I'll take an umbrella with me because it might rain

11. must not / needn't / don't have to

You must not do that = you are not allowed to do that = you are forbidden to do that
We needn't do that = we don't need to do that = we don't have to do that

12. for / since / ago

I haven't smoked for 15 years = I haven't smoked since 1998
It's 15 years since I smoked / have smoked = I stopped smoking 15 years ago

13. still / (not...) yet

I still haven't met Dr Murphy = I haven't met Dr Murphy, yet
Haven't you finished making that dress, yet? = Are you still making that dress?

14. Still already

Have you already finished?
No I'm still working at it.

15. noun or verb

She gave me a kiss = She kissed me
He glanced at me quickly = He gave me a quick glance
I'd like to go for a long walk = I'd like to walk for a long way

16. so do I / I do too / nor can I / neither can I / I can't either

Virginia is beautiful. So is Ruth / Ruth is, too
Norman isn't very clever. Nor is Ron / Neither is Ron / Ron isn't either

17. so ... that / such a/an ... that - too... for ... to / not ... enough to ...

The table was so heavy that he couldn't lift it = It was such a heavy table that he couldn't lift it
= The table was too heavy for him to lift = He was not strong enough to lift the table

18. 'uncountables'

NB: information, accommodation, news, knowledge, luggage, progress, advise, scenery, furniture, experience, weather + VERBO AL SINGOLARE (MAI articolo A/An ma SOME)

I heard some very bad news = The news I heard was very bad
Somebody has stolen my luggage = My luggage has been stolen

19. adverbs / adjectives

She drives recklessly = She is a reckless driver
She gave me a mysterious look = She looked at me mysteriously
Note: irregular adverbs: hard, fast, late (different use: hardly = a malapena, lately = recentemente)

Note: Verbs of appearance: look, sound, smell, taste, feel, seem, appear + ADJECTIVE (not adverb)

20. prefer / would rather / would prefer

I prefer walking to running = I'd (= would) rather walk than run

21. miscellaneous

The news is terrible = What a terrible news!

How much did that coat cost? = How much did you pay for that coat?

It took me three weeks to read *War and Peace*

I spent three weeks reading *War and Peace*

It's a five-hour journey to Aberdeen = It takes (you) five hours to get to Aberdeen

You'd better go to bed early tonight = If I were you, I'd go to bed early tonight

Why didn't I work last night! = I should have worked last night

I thought it was an elephant = I mistook it for an elephant

It is boring to stay at home all day = Staying at home all day is boring

The table was in the middle of the room = There was a table in the middle of the room

The only thing he hadn't done was lock the door = He'd done everything except lock the door

The only place I won't visit next year is Mongolia = I'll visit everywhere except Mongolia next year

There wasn't anybody in the room = There was nobody in the room ... (*some/one/thing/where/body*)

I'm sure he hasn't gone out = He can't have gone out

There are very few people I trust = I don't trust many people = There are not many people I trust

Not much news has come out recently = Very little news has come out recently

There were so few students in the class that I cancelled the lesson = The class was so small

We had to wait for two hours before he finally arrived = He kept us waiting for two hours before...

It's not very far from here = It's quite near

It's so far = It's such a long way

He rarely (=seldom) visits his mother = He doesn't visit his mother very often = He hardly ever visits his mother

I don't think I'll go on Sunday = I doubt if I'll go on Sunday

We couldn't go because of the weather = The weather prevented us from going

We only dig the garden when the good weather has arrived = We wait until the good weather has arrived
before we dig the garden

now try yourself:

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<http://www.world-english.org/sentencerewriting.htm>

http://www.oup.com/elt/global/products/wordpower/exam_practice_questions/sentence_transformation/