**Unit Three / Negative Form**

A negative sentence (or statement) states that something is not true or incorrect. In English language when we want to say that something **is not** true or **in**correct we add the word ‘**not**’ after the first auxiliary verb in the positive sentence.

**List of auxiliaries in English**

A list of verbs that (can) function as auxiliaries in English is as follows:

**Verbs to Be** (am, are, is, was, were, being, been)

**Verbs to Have** (have, has, had, having)

**Modals** (will, would **/** shall, should **/** can, could **/** may, might **/** must, ought to, dare).

Examples:

1- He is playing. ……………………………..He is **not** playing.

2- The clouds were blocking the sun’s rays. ….The clouds were **not** blocking the sun’s rays.

3- They are happy. ………………………..They are **not** happy.

4- He can help us. …………………………He **cannot** help us.

5- They will travel tomorrow. ……………..They will **not** travel tomorrow. (**long form**)

(Or) They **won’t** travel tomorrow. (**short form** / Contraction)

6- I am late. ………………. I am **not** late. Or ( I’m not late )

\* If there is no auxiliary verb in the positive sentence, as in the Present Simple and Past Simple tenses, then use one of the forms of **Verbs to Do** (do , does, did).

1- According to the tense of the verb

2- and the subject.

**Examples:**

1- She clean**s** her room. ………………..She does **not** clean her room.

2- Nada called me yesterday. ……………….Nada did **not** call me yesterday.

3- They open the windows. ……………….They do **not** open the windows.

4- He does nothing at all. ……………… He does **not** do anything at all.

5- The man lost all his money. ……………….The man did **not** lose all his money.

**Note /** In the following sentence the verb **‘has’** is a main verb.

She **has** a cat. …………… She does **not** have a cat.

**Negative prefixes**

In English, another way make negative statements is by adding **negative prefixes** to **nouns**, **adjectives**, and **verbs**.

Here are some English negative prefixes: **a–**, **de**, **dis**–, **il**–, **im**–, **in**-, **ir**–, **non**–, **un**–.

**For example**,

\* Words that take **a–** as a negative prefix always begin with a consonant

political …………………**a**political / typical نموذجي ……**a**typical

theist …………………….**a**theist

\* Words that take **dis–** as a negative prefix may begin with a vowel or a consonant.

agree ……………………**dis**agree / comfort …………………**dis**comfort

mount …………………..**dis**mount / orient ……………………**dis**orient

\* Words that take **il–** as a negative prefix always begin with **the letter L.**

legal ………………....**il**legal **/** legible ………………..**il**legible

literate …………….…**il**literate **/** logical ………………..**il**logical

\* Words that take **im–** as a negative prefix always begin with the letter m or p.

mobile ………………**im**mobile غير متحرك / moral ……………….**im**moral

perfect ………………**im**perfect غير تام / possible ………….…**im**possible

\* Words that take **in–** as a negative prefix can begin with a vowel (except **i** or **u**) or a consonant.

accurate ……………**in**accurate / eligible مؤهل…………….**in**eligible غير مؤهل experience ….**in**experience

organic …………….**in**organic / decent ……………..**in**decent / sane عاقل ……………….**in**sane مجنون

\* Words that take **ir–** as a negative prefix always begin with the letter **r**.

rational ……..**ir**rational **/** reconcilable ……**ir**reconcilable **/**  regular …..**ir**regular **/** resistible …..**ir**resistible

\* Words that take **non–** as a negative prefix may begin with a vowel or a consonant.

conformist ……**non**conformist **/** essential ……**non**essential **/** resident مقيم……**non**resident

fiction ………..**non**fiction **/** sense ……….**non**sense **/** restrictive …**non**restrictive **/** metallic ….**non**metallic

\* Words that take **un–** as a negative prefix may begin with a vowel or consonant.

able …….**un**able  **/** interesting ………..**un**interesting **/** usual ……….**un**usual **/** prepared ……**un**prepared

happy …...**un**happy **/** comfortable …….**un**comfortable  **/** helpful ……**un**helpful **/** fair …..**un**fair غير منصف

clear …….**un**clear **/** kind …..**un**kind **/** certain ….**un**certain **/** known ……**un**known / stable …….**un**stable

wise …….**un**wise **/** forgettable …….**un**forgettable **/** fortunate …….**un**fortunate

**\*** Words that take **de-** as a negative prefix

activate .…**de**activate **/** construct ………**de**construct تفكيك **/** contaminate **لوث** …**de**contaminate / value ….**de**value

**Note:** There are many words that begin with **in–** that are **not** words with a negative prefix. For example:

incline / indulge / insist / invoke