MOOD

The mood of a verb is the form of a verb that tells the mode (or manner) in which an actions is shown.

There are three moods, the indicative, the imperative and the subjunctive.

Indicative Mood

The most frequently used mood, by far, is the indicative mood. The indicative mood is used to make sentences and ask questions, e.g.

	Indicative Mood
STATEMENT	I heard a noise. The train is coming into the station. The earth moves round the sun.
QUESTIONS	Did you hear that noise? Are you Miss Aidoo? Have you understood the lesson?

Imperative Mood

The imperative mood is used to give commands or make requests.

	Imperative Mood
COMMAND	In the name of the law <u>open</u> the door! <u>Come</u> here and speak to me. <u>Don't</u> make a noise. <u>Run</u>!

With a request we usually add 'please,' but this depends on the kind of request, e.g.

REQUEST	Please <u>don't</u> forget to write to me. <u>Don't</u> make a noise, please.

Please give your sister my best wishes.
Let me help you.

The verbs underlined in those sentences are in the imperative mood. The imperative (with one exception) has always the same form as the simple perfect tense, e.g.

Present Tense	Imperative
I take	Take!
I speak	Speak!
You go	Go!
I do	Do!
I don't	Don't!

The one exception is the verb 'to be': e.g.

Present Tense	Imperative
I am here	Be here!
I am quiet	Be quiet!
You are kind	Be kind!

You will notice that the imperative form of the verb usually hasn't any subject. Compare these two sentences:

	Subject	Verb	Object
Indicative	I	open	The door.
Imperative	-	Open	The door.

We sometimes say that the subject of the imperative verb is *you*. However, it is sometimes necessary to specify who, among the listeners, is to obey a command, e.g. 'Idris, shut the door!'; 'Udo, clean the blackboard.'

In imperative sentences there is generally no subject.