

The Subjunctive: Verbs and Nouns that Use the Subjunctive

FORM:

The **present subjunctive** is used in ‘that’ clauses that follow some verbs and nouns.

Verbs

advise propose
beg recommend
command request
demand require
determine stipulate
insist suggest
move urge
order
pledge
pray
prefer

Nouns

command
decision
demand
order
preference
pronouncement
proposal
recommendation
request
requirement
suggestion

USE:

Sentences with **subjunctive** verbs and nouns generally stress importance or urgency. It shows that the speaker wants something to happen. Since it isn’t certain that something will happen, the ‘uncertain’ verbs are in the present subjunctive form. (same form as bare infinitive)

EXAMPLES:

The teacher demands that we be on time for class.

I insisted that he not smoke in my house.

Their suggestion that she be told the truth would upset her deeply.

Write two sentences for each situation – one with a verb requiring a SUBJUNCTIVE and one with a noun requiring a SUBJUNCTIVE.

1. The coach prefers certain things. He wants his best player to go to bed early.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
2. Julie wants to recommend something. She thinks everyone should go skiing in the Rockies.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____

Advanced 3 – Exercise 34 – The Subjunctive: Verbs and Nouns that Use the Subjunctive

3. Sue proposes something. She wants him to go out to dinner with her.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
4. Justin had a request. He wanted the bandleader to play their special song.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
5. The waiter had a suggestion. The lady should order the lamb and the white wine.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
6. Naomi has a proposal. She wants Jason to build an extra room for the new baby.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
7. The city will have a new requirement for its pools. Everybody will have to wear a bathing cap.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
8. The bus driver has a suggestion. Everyone should move back.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
9. The boss has a new demand. The staff has to start the project this week and hand it in by Friday.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
10. Lucy had a preference. She wanted everyone to pay for the trip before Thursday.
 - a. _____
 - b. _____