Chapter 8
Way to Express an Offer/Liking and Disliking

Objective:

1. To know how to express an offer in English and able to use it in conversation.
2. To distinguish "liking" and "disliking" in English and learn how to express them.

A. An offer

An offer is a way a speaker wants to express a willingness to help or to serve the hearer. It can be done in many ways and the response can be either acceptance or refusal. The structural form of the offer can be in the form of a question or a polite command. Study the dialogue below.
Al. **Presentation**: An offer in form of a question

**Dialogue 1** : At Ramkhamhaeng University

Operator: Ramkhamhaeng University. May I help you?
Tom: Yes, I'd like to speak to Mr. Somsak, please.
Operator: Do you know his room number?
Tom: I'm afraid I don't.
Operator: Would you like me to check for it?
Tom: Yes, please.
Operator: Would you please hold on for a few minutes?
Tom: (Pause) Well, he's in Room 4015. I'll put you through.
Operator: Thank you very much.
Tom: You're welcome.

**AI.1 Check your understanding**

1. Where is Tom now? And what's he doing?

2. What is the problem?

3. Is the operator willing to help?

4. Why does the **operator** request Tom to hold on the line?

5. Can Tom get in touch Mr. Somsak?
A1. **Presentation**: An offer in form of a question

**Dialogue 1**: At Ramkhamhaeng University

Operator: *Ramkhamhaeng University. May I help you?*

Tom: *Yes, I'd like to speak to Mr. Somsak, please.*

Operator: *Do you know his room number?*

Tom: *I'm afraid I don't.*

Operator: *Would you like me to check for it?*

Tom: *Yes, please.*

Operator: *Would you please hold on for a few minutes? (Pause) Well, he's in Room 4015. I'll put you through.*

Tom: *Thank you very much.*

Operator: *You're welcome.*

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**A1.1 Check your understanding**

1. Where is Tom now? And what's he doing?

2. What is the problem?

3. Is the operator willing to help?

4. Why does the operator request Tom to hold on the line?

5. Can Tom get in touch Mr. Somsak?
A1.2 Key to your pronunciation

The intonation pattern of an offer is similar to that of a question. The arrangement will be 233+ with rising pitch. Study the intonation pattern of an offer below and compare it with the two types of sentences. Notice that all of them have rising at the end, but are normal at the beginning, except for a request.

Offer: 1. May I help you?

2. Would you like me to check it?

Question: Do you have his room number?

Request: Would you please hold on for a few minutes?

A1.3 Explanation

Modals "may", "will", and "shall" are involved in making an offer in English. Moreover, some questions may function as an offer. More examples of offers are given below. Study them and complete the table.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Structural forms of offer</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary questions</td>
<td>Do you want me to check for you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>What can I do for you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questions with modals</td>
<td>May I help you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Can I get you anything to drink?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Would you like another piece of cake?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Would you like me to check it for you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Shall I get you an envelope?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In some cases of offer, the speaker asks the purpose of the hearer if he/she wants or needs something and the speaker is willing to help or to serve him/her. This is demonstrated in the mini-talks below.

**Mini-talk 1:**

Mrs. Smith

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

Would you like another piece of cake?
(If yes, I'll get it for you)

Sam

Yes, please

**Mini-talk 2:**

Mrs. Smith

![Image](https://via.placeholder.com/150)

Won't you have another piece of cake?

Mary

No, thank you.
A2. Presentation: An offer in the form of a polite command

Dialogue 2: At a party.

Bob

Let me get you something to drink.

Have another softdrink or have some more coffee.

Try some of my banana cake.

John

Yes, I'd love that.

I'd love another cup of coffee.

Well, if you insist.

A2.1 Check your understanding

1. Who is the host of the party?

__________________________________________________________________________________________

2. What does Bob do?

__________________________________________________________________________________________

3. What does he offer to John?

__________________________________________________________________________________________

4. Is this the first time that John drinks?

__________________________________________________________________________________________

5. What else does Bob offer?

__________________________________________________________________________________________
A2.2 Key to your pronunciation

The intonation pattern of an offer in form of polite command will be similar to those of polite commands that is 2-3-4. Practice saying the offer below.

1. Let me get you something to drink.

2. Try some of my banana cake.

3. Have another soft drink.

4. Have some more coffee.

5. Have another soft drink or have some more coffee.

A2.3 Explanation

1. Both types of offers are used in everyday conversation. The response depends on the hearer to either accept or to refuse. The response expressions are in many forms. Some of them are used in relation to certain social contexts. Compare the following six pairs of mini-talks and study the two types of responses.
Mini-talk 3: At a shopping center.

Shop Assistance

What can I do for you?

Mrs. Smith

Yes, do you have any blue blouses?

(acceptance)

........................

Shop Assistance

Can I help you?

Mrs. Smith

It's all right. Thanks.

(refusal)

Mini-talk 4: At an office.

Secretary

Shall I get you a chair?

Nancy

Yes, please. That's very kind of you.

(acceptance)

........................

Secretary

Do you want me to get you a chair?

Nancy

No, thank you. Please don't trouble yourself.

(refusal)
Mini-talk 5: At a party.

Host

Try some of my fruit salad.

Thanks. That will be very nice. (acceptance)

Peter

Host

Have some of my fruit salad.

No, thank you. I'm fine for now. (refusal)

Peter

Mini-talk 6: At the airport.

Tom

Mary is late. Would you like me to call her?

Yes, please. If you don't mind. (acceptance)

Sue

Tom

Mary is late. Let me help you.

That's very kind of you. But I can manage. (refusal)

Sue

2. The conversational sequence of mini-talks 1-4 must be like the following,

Speaker: Offer

Hearer: Acceptance + compliment

or

Refusal + compliment / reason

The following table summarizes the expressions of offer and responses which students should learn them and study them by heart.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contexts</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Offer expressions</th>
<th>Acceptance</th>
<th>Refusal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At a shopping center</td>
<td>Shop assistant</td>
<td>- What can I do for you?</td>
<td>Yes, do you have any blue blouses?</td>
<td>It's all right. Thanks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mrs. Smith</td>
<td>- Can I help you?</td>
<td>_</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At an office</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>- Shall I get you a chair?</td>
<td>Yes, please. That's very kind of you.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy</td>
<td>- Do you want me to get you a chair?</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>No, thank you. Please don't trouble yourself.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At a party</td>
<td>Host</td>
<td>- Try some of my fruit salad.</td>
<td>Thanks. That would be nice.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Peter</td>
<td>- Have some of my fruit salad.</td>
<td>_</td>
<td>No, thank you. I'm fine now.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>At the airport.</td>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>- Would you like me to call him?</td>
<td>Yes, please. If you don't mind.</td>
<td>That's very kind of you. But I can manage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Susan</td>
<td>- Let me help you.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A3. Practice

A3.1 Writing exercises

A3.1.1 Supply the appropriate response to the following offer as directed.

1. Can I get you some orange juice?

   Can I get you some orange juice?
   ____________________________
   (Acceptance)
   ____________________________
   You

   ____________________________
   (Refusal)
   ____________________________
   You

2. Let me get you some sandwiches.

   Let me get you some sandwiches.
   ____________________________
   (Acceptance)
   ____________________________
   You

   ____________________________
   (Refusal)
   ____________________________
   You

3. At the travel agency,

   Can I help you?
   ____________________________
   (Acceptance)
   ____________________________
   You

   ____________________________
   (Refusal)
   ____________________________
   You
4. At the museum,

- What can I do for you?
  - You
  - (Acceptance)
  - You
  - (Refusal)

5. At Ramkhamhaeng University,

- Would you like me to check for you?
  - You
  - (Acceptance)
  - You
  - (Refusal)

A3.1.2 Supply the appropriate offer to the following response as directed.

1. At the bank,

- Teller
  - Yes, I'd like you to cash my traveler's check, please.
  - Customer

2. On the telephone,

- You
  - Yes, I need some information about studying in U.S.A.
3. At the restaurant,

   Waiter

   Thanks, I've had enough.

   You

4. At the party.

   Host

   It's all right. I can manage myself.

   Mary

5. At the library.

   Librarian

   Oh, yes please. That's very kind of you.

   Student

---

A3.2 Listening and speaking practice

A3.2.1 Sentence Practice. Right to left drills. Listen and repeat after the instructor.

1. Would / you like me / to get anything / for you?

   for you?

   to get anything for you?

   you like me to get anything for you?

   Would you like me to get anything for you?

2. Let me / get you / something / to drink.

3. Try / some of / my / banana / cake.

4. Do you / want me / to get you / a chair?
5. What / can / I do / for you?

A3.2.2 Substitution Drills. Substitute the given words or phrases to the underlined words.

1. Try some of my banana cake.
   fruit salad.
   sandwiches.
   cookies.

2. Would you like me to call her?
   check it?
   help you?
   finish it?

3. Have another cup of coffee.
   cup of tea.
   glass of soft drink.
   glass of orange juice.

4. Shall I get you instructions on how to use an overhead projector?
   to operate a washing machine?
   to play a tape?
   to operate a duplicating machine?

B. Expressing Liking and Disliking

Liking and disliking are the ways that speakers and hearers convey their opinions toward something and someone in their daily-life conversation. These expressions can be done in many ways and they may be related to other concepts.
such as approval and disapproval, satisfaction and dissatisfaction and interest and lack of interest. Students should learn how to express these types of opinions in English and remember the expressions in each category. In this part of the chapter, emphasis will be on how to express liking and disliking in English.

B1. Presentation: Liking

At the Smith’s.

Mrs. Smith likes going shopping and eating out.

Mr. Smith likes staying home and watching TV.

Tom, his son, enjoys painting and he loves hitch-hiking.

Nancy, his daughter, prefers playing the violin to listening to jazz music.

Sue, her friend, likes the small house on the river bank rather than the one on the hill.

B1.1 Check your understanding

1. who likes watching TV?

2. who loves hitch-hiking?
3. Who enjoys going shopping?

4. What does Mary prefer?

5. What does Susan like?

**B1.2 Explanation**

1. The common way of expressing "liking" is by the transitive verbs "like", "love", and "enjoy" as in the following examples.

   Mrs. Johnson likes going shopping.
   Mr. Johnson loves watching TV.
   Tom enjoys painting.

   Liking can be further expressed in "degrees of liking" as in the following which ranges from the least to the most.

   Least  Mrs. Johnson likes going shopping.
         Mrs. Johnson likes going shopping very much.
         Mrs. Johnson is fond of going shopping.

   Most  Mrs. Johnson adores going shopping.

**B2. Presentation 2**

   Expressions of interjections are used to show the speaker's emotion of liking. Study the mini-talks below.
Mini-talk 7:

Mrs. Johnson: Oh, how nice! Thank you very much.

Mrs. Smith: I would like to take you out to shop for clothes.

(Mrs. Smith likes going shopping.)

Mini-talk 8:

Mr. Smith: Today is a holiday. The TV programs are very special.

Mrs. Smith: How wonderful!

Mini-talk 9:

Tom: Here is that new painting set that you like.

Mr. Smith: How marvelous!

Mini-talk 10:

Nancy: I bought you a lot of classical tapes.

Mrs. Smith: How lovely!

Mini-talk 11:

Mr. Smith: This summer vacation, we'll go around the world.

Mrs. Smith: What wonderful news!
B2.1 Check your understanding

1. Why did Mrs. Smith say "Oh, how nice!"?

2. Why did Mr. Smith say "How wonderful!"?

3. Why did Tom say "How marvelous!"?

4. Why did Mary say "How lovely!"?

5. Why did Mrs. Smith say "What wonderful news!"?

B2.2 Key to your pronunciation

Practice saying 2-4-1 arrangement of pitch on the following sentences.

```
4—- 4
Oh  how nice!

2  1
How  wonderful!

2  1
2  1
What  wonderful  news!

2  1
How  marvelous!
```

B2.3 Explanation

The structure of the exclamation begins with "how" and "what" followed by an adjective or a noun phrase. There is no verb in this type of sentence.
How + adj.  
How nice!

What + noun phrase!  
How wonderful!
How marvelous!
How lovely!
What wonderful news!

B3. Presentation: Disliking

"Disliking" is done by making it negative or opposite the original "liking".

Mini-talk 12:

Tell me what sport you don't like.

Pim

I don't like swimming.

Sue

I hate boxing.

John

I don't enjoy tennis.

Peter

Mini-talk 13:

What else don't you like?

Pim

I don't enjoy sitting in the car for a long time.

Sue

I can't stand the traffic in Bangkok.

Tom

I don't love TV commercials.

John
B3.1 **Explanations**

The common way to express "disliking" is to make sentences in negative forms, except some of them which contain the verb "hate" and "dislike". Compare the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liking</th>
<th>Disliking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sue likes swimming.</td>
<td>Sue doesn't like swimming.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John likes boxing.</td>
<td>John doesn't like boxing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John hates boxing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>John dislikes boxing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peter enjoys tennis.</td>
<td>Peter doesn't enjoy tennis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John loves TV commercials.</td>
<td>John doesn't love TV commercials.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom likes traffic in Bangkok.</td>
<td>Tom can't stand the traffic in Bangkok.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In some contexts, the speakers may express their disliking with the expression beginning with "I'm afraid" or "I'm not sure". This is because he wants not to be in conflict with the hearer's feeling. Study the mini-talk below.

**Mini-talk 14:**

- Do you like pizza?
  - I'm not sure I'd like it.  
  - I'm not sure I'd enjoy it.
  - I'm afraid pizza doesn't agree with me.
  - It looks delicious. But I'm afraid it's a bit too rich for me.

The above expressions help his negative responses of disliking to be more polite instead of saying "No, I don't like it."
B4. Practice

B4.1 Writing practice

Study the mini-talks below and then answer the questions provided.

Mini-talk 15:

Mike: That sport car looks marvellous.

Tom: Oh! Yes, it does, but I'm pleased with my motor-cycle.

Questions

1. Who really likes the car?

2. What indicates his liking?

3. Who dislikes the car?

4. What indicates his disliking?
Mini-talk 16:

Sherry

Do you know that lady? She looks strange.

Nancy

Yes, her name is Miss Linda Clark, the worst tempered woman I've ever met.

Questions

1. Who knows Miss Linda?

2. Do they feel friendly to her?

3. How do you know that they dislike her?

Mini-talk 17:

John

Have you been to the new exhibition at the gallery? A lot of striking paintings are there.

Ed

Yes, most of the paintings seem wonderful, except for some funny pieces.

Questions

1. Did both of them visit the gallery?
2. Did they enjoy the exhibition?

3. Did both of them like the paintings?

4. What indicate their liking or disliking?

Mini-talk 18:

Sri

Do you like silk?

Pam

I'd rather use synthetic material than (use) silk. It's easier to take care of.

Questions

1. What are they doing?

2. Who likes silk?

3. Who doesn't like silk?

4. What is the reason?
**B4.2 Listening and speaking practice**

**B4.2.1 Sentence Practice. Right to left drills.** Listen and repeat after the instructor.

1. I'm afraid / Pizza / doesn't / agree with me.
   
   agree with me
   
   doesn't agree with me.
   
   Pizza doesn’t agree with me
   
   I’m afraid Pizza doesn’t agree with me.

2. I / can't stand / the traffic / in / Bangkok.


4. Susan / likes / the small house / on the river bank / rather than / the one / on the hill.

5. Many / prefers / playing the violin / to listening / to jazz music.

**B4.2.2 Substitution Drills.** Substitute the given words or phrases to the underlined words.

1. Emily enjoys jogging.
   
   cooking hot food.
   
   reading a detective story.
   
   studying linguistics.

2. Sherry likes swimming.
   
   loves
   
   enjoys
   
   adores
3. I'm not sure I'd like that cartoon.
    I'd enjoy sun bathing.
    I'd love classical music.
    I prefer cooking to gardening.

B4.3 Dictation. Listen to what your instructor says and then fill in the blanks.

1. I'd like to cash my __________, please.
2. ______________ have another piece of cake?
3. Can I get you ______________ to drink?
4. Try some of my ______________.
5. Mrs. Smith ______________ going shopping.
6. Tom ______________ the traffic in Bangkok.
7. That sport car looks ______________.
8. I ______________ with my motor cycle.
9. Most of the paintings sound ______________.
10. I ______________ use synthetic material than silk.

C. Application

C1. Fill in the blanks orally first, then write your answers down.

1. The building looks __________. (terrible / modern)
    I don't like it.
2. The story sounds __________. (tragic / comic)
    I enjoy it.
3. Try this glass of milk. It tastes __________. (fresh / sour)
    It's awful.
4. The air from the mountains makes me feel ________ . (stuffy / cool)
   I'd like to stay here for another week.

5. Have you ever seen a hippopotamus?
   Yes, I've seen one at the zoo. It looks ________. (cute / ugly)
   I can't stand its looks.

C2. Complete the following mini-talks and the dialogue.

Mini-talk 19: Sam and Mike were talking about the dinner party last night.

Did you enjoy the dinner?

Mike

Well, the dinner was excellent. But ________ .

Sam

Mini-talk 20: Tourists are discussing traffic problem in Bangkok.

Everything is fantastic, except for ________ .

Why don't you like the traffic?

I don't like traffic jam, ________ drivers, ________ buses, and ________ motorcycles.

Nancy

Sally
Dialogue:

Jim: Do you enjoy reading?

Sue: ____________________________

What kinds of things do you like to read?

______________________________

Do you like reading detective stories, too?

______________________________

How about newspapers and magazines?

______________________________

How wonderful! I like a person who loves reading.