A guide to interjections

English is a beautiful language with grammar at its core. Today, we will learn about interjections. When you meet a friend after a long time you tend to share many things with them. During your conversation, you may use expressions such as, “Wow! That’s a great news” or “Alas!” Do you know what these expressions are called? They are called interjections. The words used to express strong feelings or sudden emotions.

You can find these interjections at the start of a sentence which is generally followed by a comma or an exclamation mark. A comma is used for a mild interjection while an exclamation mark is used to show a sudden display of surprise, or emotion. Sometimes, introductory expressions like yes, no and indeed are also considered as interjections.

Example:

1. Indeed, this is not the first time that the trains are late.
2. Yes, I did it purposefully.
3. No, please don’t do that.

Don’t forgot that some interjections such as phew, ah, mmmm are sounds. Following is the list of interjection with its meaning and example.

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<th>Interjection</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<td>ah</td>
<td>expressing pleasure</td>
<td>Ah, that feels good.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dear</td>
<td>expressing pity</td>
<td>Oh dear! Did it hurt?</td>
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hello expressing greeting Hello Mona. How are you today?
hey calling attention Hey! Look at that!
hi expressing greeting Hi! What's up?

hm expressing hesitation, doubt or disagreement Hmm. I am not so sure.
uh expressing hesitation Oh wow! You are finally here!
uh-huh expressing agreement Uh...I don't know what to say.
um, umm expressing hesitation Shall we go? / Uh-huh.
That means you are coming. Umm...

Interjections are an excellent way of expressing an emotion, but be careful and avoid overusing them. Learn the appropriate use of interjections by joining an online English class.

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- By Chander Madan

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