

WHAT IS AN INTERJECTION?

Interjections are used to convey emotion in an abrupt and exclamatory way. They express meaning or feeling in a word or two.

See if you can identify the interjections in the sentences below:

1. Yowza! That is a fine looking car.
2. Hurray! It is a snow day and school is canceled.
3. It is so exciting, my goodness, I just can't believe it.
4. Joe was late to school and, yikes, the teacher was mad.
5. Oh! I can't believe how nice you look.
6. Well, gee, that sure is a kind thing to say.
7. Boo! I scared you.
8. Whoops, I dropped the milk and it spilled.
9. Yay, it is finally Friday and the workweek is over.
10. Oh well, all good things must come to an end.



Answer Key

Here are the answers to the 10 questions above.

1. “Yowza” is the interjection here. It is expressing the emotion of being quite impressed with the car.
2. “Hurray” is the interjection, clearly expressing happiness.
3. “My goodness” is the interjection here, expressing excitement.
4. “Yikes” is the interjection here, expressing a cause for concern.
5. “Oh,” the interjection, acts as a classic interjection as a standalone sentence. It is offset by its exclamation point.
6. Here, we have two interjections: “well” and “gee.” They express a bashful pause, like the speaker is at a loss for words.
7. “Boo” is the rather obvious (and scary) interjection in this sentence.
8. “Whoops” is the interjection used to express the error.
9. “Yay” is another interjection that expresses the emotion of happiness, just as “hurray” did in sentence #2.
10. “Oh well” is the emotional interjection here, indicating a tinge of resignation.

