

MAIN FUNCTIONS OF COMMUNICATION

Admiration

What a + *nom sing.*!
How + *adj.*!
It's such a...!
It's so + *adj.*!
It is really + *adj.*!
Isn't it + *adj.*?
Wonderful!
Super! / Great!
Fantastic!

Advice

You should / shouldn't + BV
You ought to + BV
You could + BV
Couldn't you?
You'd better + BV
If I were you, I would...
Why don't you...?
Why not + BV?
I suggest you + BV
I'd advise you to...
You might also...
Instead of + *V-ing*, you should...

Agreement

I agree with you.
I think you're right.
That's true.
So + *aux.* + *pronom*
I couldn't agree more.
Definitely / Absolutely

Anger

I can't stand it (*supporter*)
I can't bear + *V-ing*
For goodness' sake!
I've had enough of...

Apologizing

I'm sorry for + *V-ing*
I apologize for + *V-ing*
Please, forgive me for...

Appearance

It looks as if (*on dirait que*)...
It looks as though...
It sounds as if...
It seems that...

Capacity

I can / could + BV
I'll be able to + BV
I managed to + BV
It's possible for me to + BV
He succeeded in + *V-ing*
I could have + *p. passé*

Cause

Because
As, since (*étant donné que*)
Owing to (*en raison de*)
That's why
... for + *V-ing*
On account of (*à cause de*)

Certainty

I'm sure (that) / convinced that...
Certainly
He must have + *p. passé*
He can't have + *p. passé*

Comparison

➔ **Green Pages**
the same as
different from
similar to
whereas / while

Complaint

Enough is enough!
I've had enough!
I'm fed up with / tired of
It makes me sick!
I can't stand / bear + *V-ing* / to + BV

Concession

After all...
I admit / acknowledge that
To a certain extent (*dans une certaine mesure*)
Although (*bien que*) / Though
Even if / though (*même si*)
I suppose / I guess
You may be right, but...
It may be so, but...
However (*cependant*)

Consequence

Consequently, ...
As a consequence, ...
As a result, ...
So / therefore (*donc*)
So that (*si bien que*)

Contrast

On the contrary, ...
Unlike / Contrary to
(*contrairement à*)
While / Whereas (*tandis que*)
On the one hand, ...
on the other hand, ...
Instead of + *V-ing*
Anyway...

Desire

I want to + BV
I want you to...
I'd like (you) to
I'd love to
I wish I + *prétérit modal*
If only I...
I feel like + *V-ing*
(*j'ai envie de...*)
I can't wait to + BV
I look forward to + *V-ing*
I have no desire to...
I'm willing to...

Disagreement

I disagree with you.
I totally disagree.
I don't (quite) agree.
I think you're wrong.
I don't think so.
Neither + *aux.* + *pronom*
Nonsense! / Rubbish! / Baloney!
This is absurd!
That's wrong.

Disappointment

I am very disappointed.
What a pity! (*Dommage!*)

Disapproval

I disapprove of...
I don't approve of...

Dislikes

I don't like + *V-ing* / to + BV
I dislike to + *V-ing* / to + BV
I hate (*je déteste*) + *V-ing* / to + BV
I can't stand / bear + *V-ing*
(*je ne peux supporter*)
I resent + *V-ing*

Doubt

I'm not quite sure
I wonder (*je me demande*)
It may be true, but...
I doubt it

Hope

I (really) hope
I expect to + BV
I hope so

Hypothesis

If...
Suppose / Supposing...
Provided / Providing
Unless (*à moins que*)
In case... + should

Incapacity

I can't / couldn't
I can't manage to + BV
It's difficult for me to + BV
Have difficulty + *V-ing* sth
Have difficulties in + *V-ing* sth
It's impossible for me to...
Not be able to
Be unable to

Indifference

I don't feel concerned
I don't care
Why should I care if...
I couldn't care less if...
This is none of my business

Intention

I intend to + BV
I'm thinking of + *V-ing*
I'm planning to...
I'm determined to...
I've decided to...
I am to...
I will + BV
I'm going to + BV

Likes

I like / love + *V-ing* / to + BV
I'm keen on / fond of...
I'm mad / crazy about...

Obligation

I must...
I have to / have got to...
I need to...
I am obliged / compelled to...
You must, whether you like it
or not
You are to + BV
It is necessary for... to...

Opinion

I think / I believe
I suppose
I guess
In my opinion, ...
To my mind, ...
In my view, ...
As far as I am concerned, I think...
Personally, I think...
I'm convinced that...

Permission

You may / can + BV
You're allowed to...
I'll let you + BV
Do you mind if...?

Preference

I prefer to + BV
I prefer + *V-ing* sth to + *V-ing* sth
It's better for me to + BV
I'd rather + BV
I'd rather you + *prétérit modal*
Instead of + *V-ing*

Probability

Perhaps / Maybe
It may / might / could + BV
It looks as if / though...
I'll probably...
I suppose, I guess
I doubt it
It's likely (*probable*) / unlikely

Prohibition

You mustn't / can't
You are not to...
You are not supposed to...
You are not allowed to
It is forbidden to /
prohibited to
I won't let you + BV
I won't have you + BV / *V-ing*

Proposal

I suggest we + BV
How about + *V-ing*?
What about...?
Why don't we...?
Let's + BV
We could + BV, couldn't we?
Will you + BV? / Won't you + BV?
Shall I + BV? (*Puis-je... ? / Voulez-vous que je... ?*)

Purpose

What... for?
In order to (*afin de*) / So as (not) to
... for you (not) to + BV
So that / In order that + *modal*

Quantity

➔ **Green Pages**

Refusal

I refuse to
I won't + BV / I'm not + *V-ing*
I'd rather not + BV
I have no intention of + *V-ing*
Be unwilling / reluctant
(*réticent*) to + BV
No way!
It's out of the question!

Regret

I'm sorry I...
If only I + pluperfect
Why didn't I...?
What a pity I didn't...!
I should(n't) have + *p. passé*
I wish I + pluperfect
If I had known, I wouldn't have
+ *p. passé*
Unfortunately...

Reproach

Why did(n't) you...?
I'd rather you + *prétérit modal*
ou pluperfect
If only you + pluperfect
I wish you + *prétérit modal*
ou pluperfect
Couldn't you...?
How can / could you!
How dare you!
Instead of *V-ing*,
you should have + *p. passé*
You'd better + BV
It's high time you + *prétérit modal*
Reproach sb with sth /
for + *V-ing* sth

Suggestion ➔ Proposal

Supposition

Supposing you...
If (by any chance) you...
What if...? (*Et si... ?*)
Should you... (*Si jamais tu...*)

Surprise

Really?
It's incredible / surprising /
unbelievable / amazing!
I can't believe it! / It can't be true!
Good Heavens! / Good Lord! /
My goodness! / Jesus Christ!
You must be joking!
You don't say so!
What on earth is this?

Thanks

Thank you / Thanks
Thank you ever so much
That's very nice / kind of you
I am so grateful (*reconnaissant*)

Wishes

I wish I could...
If only I could...
I'd like to...

➔ **Desire**