# Understanding Interjections

Interjections are words that express an emotion of the speaker. They are usually positioned at the beginning of a sentence.

Example 1: *Hooray! The lecturer extended the essay deadline.*

In the above example, “hooray!” is the interjection. It shows that the speaker is grateful that his/her essay deadline was extended.

NB: Academic writing needs to be objective; therefore, interjections are too emotive to be used in academic writing. Only write an interjection if it forms part of a quote that is essential to your tutorial or essay.

Examples of interjections are:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| oh | eish | yoh | eh | hey | oh no |
| oh my | hooray | phew | really | ew | ugh |
| Oops | well | whoa | wow | gosh | yes |
| yay | yippee | ag shame | gee | goodness gracious | yebo |

Activity

**Underline the interjections in the following sentences.**

1. Eish! It is difficult remembering the differences between the electoral systems.
2. Yay! The negotiations led to South Africa becoming a democratic country.
3. Leon Schuster stars in his own film “Oh Schucks.…It’s Schuster!”