

# FUNCTIONS

## "WHAT IS A FUNCTION?"

A Function is a reason "**why**" we communicate. Every time we speak or write, we do it for a reason, so what we say it has a function or a purpose and we use the "**ing**" **forms** of verbs to name functions.

Functions are a way of "**how**" we describe language in terms of its *grammar* or *lexis*, referring to the use of language and what its literal meaning actually **does** in a real **context**: (ex. "A boy wants to go to the cinema with his friend tonight).

The language we use **to "express"** a function, is called an "**exponent**": (ex. "**Let's** go to the cinema tonight!"/"Sorry, what do you mean?"/"Thank you so much for...")

We can speak with **formal or informal** exponents! (ex. Lunch?/ Coming for lunch? /Come for lunch with us? /Why don't you come for lunch with us? /Would you like to come for lunch with us? /We would be very pleased if you could join us for lunch.

These include:

- APOLOGISING
- THANKING
- SUGGESTING
- WARNING
- PROPOSING
- AGREEING and DISAGREEING
- COMPLAINING
- SPECULATING
- CLARIFYING
- CRITICISING
- REFUSING
- ENQUIRING
- GIVING ADVICE (ADVISING)
- GREETING
- INVITING
- ADVISING
- REFUSING
- INTERRUPTING
- EXPRESSING OBLIGATION
- EXPRESSING PREFERENCES
- EXPRESSING LIKES and DISLIKES
- INTRODUCING (yourself)