

1. Propagandize the masses

Looking around you, you realize that people **need to be told what to do**, starting with the basics. They lack a clear **voice of authority** in their lives. You, meanwhile, know exactly how people should live, and you **want to help**. So, you've decided to become a **propagandist**.

Team up with a like-minded co-propagandist and compose **ten slogans** for propaganda posters — **five positive, five negative**. You're given a few possible verbs to work with below. Since these are general commands you're giving, they'll almost certainly be imperfective!

мыть ОЙ / помыть ОЙ to wash	есть / съесть to eat
пить Ъ / выпить Ъ to drink	носить И ^{shift} to wear
читать АЙ / прочитать АЙ to read	смотреть Е ^{shift} / посмотреть Е to watch
кормить И ^{shift} / покормить И [кошку] to feed [the cat]	заниматься АЙ / заняться Й/М ^{end} [спортом] to "occupy oneself" [with sports]
чистить И / почистить И [зубы] to clean [teeth]	работать АЙ / поработать АЙ to work



Positive:

Negative:

2. "Let's..." / "Let's not..." / "Let me..."

Suggestions of this sort are **very common** in Russian, but they can be especially tricky for students. Three things to note:

- 1) the construction opens with a simple imperative, **давай(те)** — literally, "give."
- 2) Next comes a **мы** (let's...) or **я** (let me, why don't I...) form of the main **verb** — in the **future** tense.
- 3) Positive suggestions tend to be perfective (for one-time future actions), while negative suggestions tend to be imperfective.

	"let's" suggestions	"let me" suggestion
читать АЙ / прочитать АЙ →	Давай(те) прочитаем "Войну и мир"! Let's read <i>War and Peace</i> !	Давай я прочитаю. Why don't I read it.
	Давай(те) не будем читать "Войну и мир"! Let's not read <i>War and Peace</i> !	

These rules are not hard and fast: the aspect could change, based on the same issues we've been discussing. For "let's..." suggestions, one can also use a simple infinitive in place of a conjugated verb, as in: **Давайте прочитать...** / **Давайте не читать...** But, students would do well to simply stick to the models above as they learn to use this construction.

Now try composing four positive and four negative suggestions. Throw out these trial balloons and see how your classmates react!

Positive:

Negative:
