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SAPERE ET FARI

## TASK 4

### Cosmic English word order

In this task you will be working with an imaginary language – Cosmic English. As you will see, the vocabulary of Cosmic English is very similar to the vocabulary of English. There are some differences that will not be explained, but they are easy to observe in the examples. The main difference between Cosmic English and English is the word order. In English, the word order is fixed: *Subject—Verb—Object*, for example in the sentence: *The aliens like linguistics*, where *the aliens* is the subject, followed by the verb *like*, followed by the object *linguistics*. You will be asked to translate 6 sentences from Cosmic English to English and 4 sentences from English into Cosmic English. To complete this exercise, you will need to figure out the word order of Cosmic English on the basis of the examples in Table 1, translated into English in the right column.

Table 1.

Cosmic English	English translation
1. Boy book read.	The boy is reading the book.
2. Boy book readed.	The boy read the book.
3. Boy sleep.	The boy is sleeping.
4. Boy sleeped.	The boy slept.
5. which sleep man	the man who is sleeping
6. which I love book	the book that I love
7. Mom that dad sleep say.	Mom says that dad is sleeping.

Tips:

- Pay attention to the verb forms in the past and present tense
- Make sure to observe the difference in the use of articles
- Examples 5. and 6. are relative clauses.
- Don't worry you don't know everything about the Cosmic English grammar. You can do the translation on the basis of the generalizations you drew from the table.

**Part 1 Translate from English to Cosmic-English:**

- (1) The girl is eating the cookie.
- (2) The girl ate the cooking that I love.
- (3) Dad says that mom ate the cookie.
- (4) The girl who is sleeping loves the book.
- (5) Dad said that the girl ate the cookie that I love.
- (6) The girl said that the boy is eating the cookie that mom baked.

**Part 2 Translate from Cosmic English into English:**

- (7) Boy book read.
- (8) Which cookie ate boy slepted.
- (9) Mom that girl cookie baked sayed.
- (10) Dad that which cookie loved boy book readed say.

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ANSWER KEY:

- (1) Girl cookie eat.
- (2) Girl which I love cookie eaten.
- (3) Dad that mom cookie ate say.
- (4) Which sleep girl book love.
- (5) Dad that girl which I love cookie eaten sayed.
- (6) Girl that boy which mom baked cookie eat sayed.
- (7) The boy is reading the book.
- (8) The boy who ate the cookie slept.
- (9) Mom said that the girl baked the cookie.
- (10) Dad said that the boy who loved the cookie read the book.