

Job 1:15

"And this Job was doing every day..."

The idea is that Job prayed and sacrificed for his children each day. He did not do it all day long but did it day by day. Each sacrificial act was complete in itself but not complete in his progression of religious activity. Hence his work of intercession was never complete even though he stopped praying (presumably) after the sacrifice.

2. The Imperfect showing continuous contemporary action

This is a very common usage.

Proverbs 15:20

"a wise son makes a glad father."

There is the concept of something that is continuously existing in the present time. It is neither future nor past but today.

3. The Imperfect showing a simple future

This is such a common concept that no illustration is really needed. We see it every day and most of our students think every use of the imperfect is this one.

4. The Imperfect showing actions of will or desire

a. Jussive

Deuteronomy 2:5

"do not excite"

b. Prohibition: The ten commandments are the best example

c. Clauses of purpose or result...often with . The English translation will show a subjunctive flavor.."that he may.."

d. Interrogation...either with or without the interrogative he, the imperfect will be used to ask...maybe with questioning particles and maybe with simple contextual notes. But the imperfect is the normal questioning tense...since the action is not complete yet.

e. Cohortative, self exhortation..."o let us"

D. THE IMPERATIVE

Big news! the imperative, jussive and cohortative are treated in major form in lesson VII. Enough for one lesson is enough and this is enough.