Permit, Allow, Let

1. Look at the modals in **bold** in the following example sentences and study the rules below:

1The security system will not **permit** you to enter without the correct password.

2 We **are not allowed to** return to the office yet.

3 I would not **allow** a child to have a TV or a computer in their room.

4 **Let** me pay for the meal.

Rules:

Permit, **allow** and **let** all have a similar meaning: "*give permission or make it possible for somebody to do something*".

Permit is often used for official public notices.

We use ***permit / allow + object*** + ***"to" infinitive***: Example 1.

We use ***let*** + ***object + infinitive without "to***": Example 4.

We sometimes use permit / allow + noun: *I was allowed access to their data.*

We often use **permit** and **allow** in the passive form:

It is not permitted to go to the office.

We are not allowed to go to the office.

We don't normally use **let** in the passive form.

2. Complete the following with the right verb forms of ***let, permit*** or ***allow***:

1. Why don't you _____ me go? All my friends are going.
2. Photography is _____ for non-commercial use only.
3. You're not _____ to smoke here.
4. We don't _____ our employees use the office telephone for personal calls.
5. You're _____ to put posters on the walls.
6. It is not _____ to use your phone here.

7. You are not _____ to use your phone here.

8. Why don't you _____ me do that?

9. I wasn't _____ to stay out late as a child.

10. The new rules and regulations do not _____ much flexibility.