Payne: a brief grammatical sketch of English

14. Imperatives

The imperative form of most English verbs is the bare infinitive:

(103)

Verb: Imperative form: Meaning: to hit golpear to break break quebrar to walk walk andar to fall fall caer to open open abrir to kiss kiss besar to greet greet saludar

The first person imperative is formed with the auxiliary *let's*, a contraction of *let us* 'déjanos', plus the bare infinitive:

(104) Let's sing a song. 'Cantemos una canción.'

AUX cantar INDEF canción