

THE SENTENCE

Week 1-3

WHAT IS A SENTENCE? (W1)

A SENTENCE is a group of words that tells a complete thought.

It must tell: WHO or WHAT

Mr. Nolan Your backpack

It must tell: WHAT IS or WHAT HAPPENS

rolled up the sleeping bags. is too heavy!

A SENTENCE FRAGMENT is a group of words that does not tell a complete thought.

Flashed in the sky. When the tree fell.

KINDS OF SENTENCES (W1)

DECLARATIVE (makes a statement, ends with a period)

We bought a package of wrapping paper.

INTERROGATIVE (asks a question, ends with a question mark)

What are you going to wrap?

IMPERATIVE (gives a command or request, ends with a period)

Help me. Please hold the box.

EXCLAMATORY (shows excitement, ends with an exclamation point)

This is a wonderful gift!

SUBJECTS AND PREDICATES (W1)

The SUBJECT tells whom or what the sentence is about.

ferryboat

The PREDICATE tells what the subject does or is.

waited

All the words in the subject make up the COMPLETE SUBJECT.

The red ferryboat

All the words in the predicate make up the COMPLETE PREDICATE.

waited at the dock.

SIMPLE SUBJECT (W1)

The SIMPLE SUBJECT tells exactly whom or what the sentence is about.

Many **people**

Marcus Johnson

He

The **palm** of his glove

Sometimes the simple subject may be several words that name a person or place.

Linda Lee Carver **South America** **New York**

Remember - sometimes the complete subject and the simple subject are the same!

SIMPLE PREDICATE (W1)

The SIMPLE PREDICATE tells exactly what the subject does or is.

go to space camp.

is in Alabama.

The SIMPLE PREDICATE may be more than one word with a helping verb.

has sung in many musicals.

will be performing again tonight.

The simple and complete predicate could also be the same as in:

The doorbell *rang*.

The simple predicate may be interrupted: We *have* often *wondered* about it.

FINDING THE SUBJECT (W2)

Most sentences that you write are in NATURAL ORDER, the subject comes before the predicate.

The **Mad Hatter** came out of the woods.

Sometimes you write sentences in INVERTED ORDER, where the subject follows all or part of the complete predicate.

Out of the woods came the **Mad Hatter**.

Interrogative and sentences that start with there or here are usually written in inverted order.

FINDING THE SUBJECT (W2)

1. Change a sentence in inverted order to a natural order.

Into the tree flew the **bird**.

The **bird** flew into the tree.

2. Sentence that start with there or here, find the verb and ask Who or What?

There was a **caterpillar** near Alice. Who or what was near Alice? A **caterpillar**.

Or some sentences begin with words other than the simple subject:

In the book a strange **character** appears. Who or what appears? A **character**.

3. Remember that interrogative sentences are usually in inverted order.

Answer the question to change the order and find the subject.

Could the **caterpillar** speak? The **caterpillar** could speak.

FINDING THE SUBJECT (W2)

The subject of an imperative sentence is always “you”.

You go to the store.

The subject usually does not appear in an imperative sentence but the subject is still “you”.

Go to the store.

(**You**) Go to the store.

Even if the name of the person is used the subject is still “you”.

Alice, watch the cat.

Alice, (**you**) watch the cat.

CONJUNCTIONS (W2)

Words that connect other words or groups of words in a sentence are called
CONJUNCTIONS.

COORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS connect words or groups of words with equal importance but a different relationship.

and – joins or adds words with similar ideas

I like fish and beef.

or – gives a choice between

Do you like fish or beef?

but – contrasts or shows a difference

I like fish but not beef.

You can also use: nor, for, yet, so

CONJUNCTIONS (W2)

CORRELATIVE CONJUNCTIONS make an even stranger connection between ideas and must be used in pairs.

both . . . and

Both Sally and John are on the team.

either . . . or

Either we go to the store or we go to school.

neither . . . nor

Neither oils nor fats contain protein.

whether . . . or

Whether it rains or snows, we will go.

A few more correlative conjunctions:

Not only . . . but also Just as . . . so

COMPOUND SUBJECTS (W2)

When a sentence has more than one subject connected by *and* or *or* it is called a
COMPOUND SUBJECT.

Why do **Joan** and **Carol** practice so often?

My **brother** or my **sister** will sing in the show.

Parents, relatives, and friends will attend.

Sentences in inverted order may also have compound subjects.

Here are **Aaron** and **Kenshiro**.

You can form a compound subject by joining sentences that have the same
predicate.

Cotton is used to make quilts. **Linen** is used to make quilts.

Cotton and **linen** are used to make quilts.

COMPOUND PREDICATES (W2)

When a sentence has more than one subject connected by *and*, *or*, or *but* it is called a COMPOUND PREDICATE.

Children in the park *jumped*, *played*, or *ran*.

Al and I *will walk* fast and *stop* at Jim's house.

People *opened* umbrellas but *did* not *use* them.

You can form a compound predicate by joining sentences that have the same subject.

Sally likes to *run*. Sally likes to *skip*. Sally likes to *play*.

Sally likes to *run*, *skip*, and *play*.

Sentences can have both compound subjects and compound predicates.

The *captain*, *co-captain*, and *coach* *ran* and *fell* on the track.

COMPOUND SENTENCES (W2)

A SIMPLE SENTENCE has a subject and a predicate and expresses a complete thought.

Joe is a scientist. She travels often.

Sometimes two simple sentences can be combined with a conjunction to form a COMPOUND SENTENCE.

Joe is a scientist and she travels often.

You may also join two simple sentences with a semicolon. (;)

Joe is a scientist; she travels often.

Remember – A compound sentence has a subject and predicate on each side of the conjunction.

CLAUSE (W3)

A CLAUSE is a group of words that has a subject and a predicate. You already know one kind of clause, a simple sentence. When a simple sentence is joined to another clause it is called a main clause or **INDEPENDENT CLAUSE**. When you join two independent clauses, you form a compound sentence.

A tree matures, and it bears fruit.

A clause that does not express a complete thought is a dependent clause or **SUBORDINATE CLAUSE**.

When a tree matures,

When you join a subordinate clause to an independent clause you form a **COMPLEX SENTENCE**

When a tree matures, it bears fruit.

COMPLEX SENTENCES (W3)

Subordinate clauses can be in different places in a complex sentence. Always use a comma after a subordinate clause that begins a sentence. Do not use a comma if it is at the end.

When you go to the library, read about trees.

Read about trees when you go to the library.

Subordinate clauses often begin with words called SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS.

although when after as as if as long as as though

Because before if since so that than unless until

whenever where whereas wherever while

COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCES (W3)

A COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCE has at least two independent clauses
and at least one subordinate clause

A lush forest once stood on this land.

The area is now desert.

It has no living trees.

Although a lush forest once stood on this land, the area is now desert, and it
has no living trees.

FRAGMENTS AND RUN-ON SENTENCES (W3)

A SENTENCE FRAGMENT is any word group that does not have both a subject and a predicate or does not express a complete thought.

Went to the lake. (who went to the lake?)

After the race. (what happened after the race?)

A RUN-ON SENTENCE consists of two or more sentences that are run together with commas or without any punctuation.

Uncle Frank is a writer Aunt Jill is one too.

Uncle Frank is a writer and Aunt Jill is one too.

Uncle Frank and Aunt Jill are writers.

Uncle Frank is a writer. Aunt Jill is one too.