



THE SENTENCE

CONTENTS

- **Sentence definition and constituents**
- **Sentence patterns**
- **Sentence structures**
- **Sentence types**

THE SENTENCE: DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

- **Clause:** A group of words which forms a grammatical unit and which contains **a subject** and **a finite verb**
 - *Because I was late, they went without me.*
- ➔ Independent and dependent clauses
- **Phrase:** A group of words which forms a grammatical unit but which does **not** contain a subject and a finite verb
 - *I like her expensive new car.*
 - *George hates working in the garden.*
- Noun phrases, prepositional phrases, verb phrases, adjective phrases, adverbial phrases

THE SENTENCE: DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

- **Sentence:** a **grammatically complete** unit capable of standing alone on its own and **semantically independent**. Normally a sentence contains an independent clause with a **finite** verb.
- **Simple sentence:** a sentence with only one clause
 - *I like milk.*
- **Compound/Complex sentence:** a sentence with two or more than two clauses
 - *He is a small boy but he is very strong.*
 - *When it rained, we went inside.*

THE SENTENCE: DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

- **Subject:** generally the noun, pronoun or noun phrase which
 - typically precedes the main verb and is most closely related to it
 - determines concord (agreement)
 - refers to something about which a statement is made in the rest of the sentence
 - *My mother* *is beautiful.*
- **Predicate:** part of the sentence which
 - states/asserts something about the subject
 - usually consists of the (finite) **verb, object, complement, and adverbial**

THE SENTENCE: DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

- **Verb**: a word that is usually one of the **main parts** of a sentence and that expresses an **action**, an **occurrence**, or a **state of being**
 - Action verbs
 - State verbs

THE SENTENCE: DEFINITIONS OF KEY TERMS

- **Finite verb:** a form of a verb that is related to the subject in **PERSON** and/or **NUMBER**, and which shows **TENSES**.

E.g.:

We *want*

She *wants* *to leave.*

I *wanted*

finite verb forms Non-finite verb forms

- Non-finite verb???
- Subject-Verb Agreement

VERBS

- Transitive verbs
 - *He **kicked** a small stone.*
 - *Did you **enjoy** the concert?*
 - *I'll **send** **you** a post card.*
 - *I'll **send** a post card **to you**.*
 - *She **said** that she would be late.*
- Intransitive verbs
 - *I can't **sleep**.*
 - *The thief **escaped**.*
- Transitive and intransitive
 - *Miss Reynolds **smiled** and **left**.*
 - *Miss Reynolds **smiled** her bright smile and **left** the room.*

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

- **Object**: a noun, pronoun or noun phrase which goes after the (transitive) verb, **affected by the action of the verb**

I love dogs.

- Direct object vs. Indirect object

My mom gave me some money.

VERBS

- Linking verbs
 - Anna **became** my best friend.
 - I **am** a student.
 - Bill **seems** to have no friends.
- **Complement**: part of the sentence which follows the verb and which thus **completes** the sentence
- **Subject complement**: one **linked to a subject** by **be** or a linking verb

She is a doctor.
- **Object complement**: one **linked to an object**
 - We made her **the chairperson**.

BASIC SENTENCE PATTERNS

Pattern 1

S + V_i

S + V_i + particle

S + V_i + adverbial phrase

- *The phone rang.*
- *He came in.*
- *The phone rang loudly.*

BASIC SENTENCE PATTERNS

Pattern 2

S + V₁ + SC

- *Frank is clever.*
- *Frank is a teacher.*
- The complement may be
 - An adjective
 - A noun
 - An adjective + noun
 - A pronoun
 - An adverb of place or time
 - A prepositional phrase

BASIC SENTENCE PATTERNS

○ Pattern 3

S + V_t + DO

S + V_t + DO + *to/for* + IO

- *My sister answered the phone.*
 - *They introduced me to the professor.*
- The Direct Object may be:
- A noun
 - A pronoun
 - A reflexive pronoun
 - An infinitive
 - An *-ing* form

BASIC SENTENCE PATTERNS

○ Pattern 4

S + V_t + IO+ DO

S + V_t + DO+ *to/for* + IO

S + V_t + IO

- *They gave him a watch.*
- *They gave a watch to him.*
- *They brought me some water.*
- *They brought some water for me.*
- *I'll tell you soon.*
- *I'll post the letter for you.*

BASIC SENTENCE PATTERNS

○ Pattern 5

S + V_t + O + OC

- *They appointed him chairman.*
- *He drove me crazy.*

- They gave him a watch.
- They made him chairman.

DEFINITION OF KEY TERMS

- **Adverbials:** any word, phrase, or clause that functions like an adverb

→ an **adverb** is a single-word adverbial

- **Adjuncts:** part of the basic structure of the sentence, modifying the verb, expressing time, manner, place, etc.

We went to the concert yesterday evening.

- **Conjuncts:** not part of the basic structure of the sentence, connecting ideas

Altogether it was a happy week.

- **Disjuncts:** (sentential adverbs) showing speaker's attitude or evaluating what is said in the rest of the sentence

Naturally, I paid for my own meal.

BASIC WORD ORDER

subject group	verb group (predicate)					
S	V	O	C	Adv		
				manner	place	time
I	bought	a hat				yesterday.
The children	ran				home.	
The taxi driver	shouted at	me		angrily		when I sat down.
We	ate	our meal		in silence.		
The song	made	them	upset.			
She	was		my teacher			for one semester.

SENTENCE STRUCTURES

Based on WORD ORDER

1. Statements (Declarative Sentences)

An utterance which describes a state of affairs, action, feeling or belief, etc.

- *It's very cold here in winter.*
- *I don't think she looks very well.*

2. Questions (Interrogative Sentences)

An utterance which asks for an expression of fact, opinion, belief, etc.

- *Can she come?*
- *What's your name?*

SENTENCE STRUCTURES

3. **Commands (Imperative Sentences)**

An utterance which tells other people what to do

- *Be seated, please.*

4. **Exclamations (Exclamatory Sentences)**

An utterance which may not have the structure of a full sentence and which shows strong emotions

- *How clever she is!*
- *What a meal!*

SIMPLE SENTENCES

- A sentence which contains only **one clause**

I like milk.

Mary and I went to the concert together.

He is a good man but sometimes misbehaves.

- A sentence which contains only **one predicate**

COMPOUND SENTENCES

A sentence which contains **two or more than two independent clauses** joined by

- **A semi-colon**

My father is a doctor; my mother is a nurse.

- **A colon**

I don't want to go: it's raining outside.

- **A coordinating conjunction (coordinator)**
BOYFANS

*He is a small boy, **but** he is very strong.*

- **A connecting adverb**

*He is a small boy; **however**, he is very strong.*

- **Correlative conjunctions**

*These headlines **both** mystified **and** infuriated him.*

COMPLEX SENTENCES

A sentence which contains **one or more dependent clauses** (including the **subordinating conjunction / subordinator**) in addition to its **independent clause**

When it rained, we went inside.

If you cannot have what you like, you had better like what you have.

Types of dependent clauses in complex sentences

- Nominal clauses (noun clauses)
- Adjectival clauses (adjective/ relative clauses)
- Adverbial clauses (adverb clauses)

REVISION

- What is a sentence?
- What basic constituents does a sentence consist of?
- How many sentence patterns are there? What are they?
- How many sentence structures are there? What are they?
- How many sentence types are there? What are they?

TRUE OR FALSE?

- A compound sentence is a sentence with at least two clauses.
- A finite verb shows its agreement with the sentence subject.
- SONGS in “I love singing songs” is the direct object.
- A disjunct is part of the basic structure of a sentence.
- A complement is optional, i.e. it can be left out without changing the structure and the meaning of a sentence.
- In a predicate, there always has to be a verb and an object.
- SMELLED in “He smelled the food carefully” is a linking verb.
- “Driving over long distances always exhausts me” is a simple sentence.