

Sentence Patterns

Seven kinds of word.

1. Noun.

*book, dog, table, house, street, car, apple, man
cloud, chair, mountain, cat, rain, door, river, horse*

2. Adjective.

*red, blue, round, big, small, long, short, hungry, tired
happy, sad, expensive, wet, dry, slow, quick, careful*

3. Verb.

*walk, sleep, read, write, eat, drive, see
be, have, do, will, should, must, can*

4. Adverb.

*quickly, slowly, yesterday, easily, carefully, today
very, extremely, loudly, quietly, eagerly, happily*

5. Determiner.

*a, an, the, that, those, this, these
every, most, some, one, two, three*

6. Preposition.

on, at, in, by, beside, under, over, of, with

7. Pronoun.

he, she, it, they, we, you, this, that, those, these

Three kinds of phrase.

1. Noun phrase.

Determiner + **adjective** + noun.

*the big house, that long table, a hungry man, horse
these apples, busy streets, an apple, a small dog*

- Not every noun phrase has an adjective or determiner.

2. Verb phrase.

*run, runs, ran, walk, walked, is walking, has walked, will walk,
isn't sleeping, didn't read, has not eaten, won't drive, can see*

3. Prepositional phrase.

Preposition + noun phrase.

*in the house, over the bridge, by the lake
under the table, with an apple, on the street*

Five sentence parts.

1. Subject term.
 - Every sentence has a subject term.
 - A subject term may be a (i) noun phrase or (ii) pronoun.
2. Verb phrase.
 - Every sentence has a verb phrase.
3. Object term.
 - An object term may be a (i) noun phrase or (ii) pronoun.
4. Complement.
 - A complement may be an (i) adjective, (ii) noun phrase, or (iii) prepositional phrase.
5. Adverbial.
 - An adverbial may be (i) an adverb or (ii) a prepositional phrase.

Three sentence patterns.

1. **Subject** + Verb (SV).

The horses ran.
A man was walking.
The apple will be eaten.

2. **Subject** + Verb + **Object** (SVO).

A man was driving the car.
The dog chased the cat.
Horses cannot read books.

3. **Subject** + Verb + **Complement** (SVC).

The horses are hungry.
The book is on the table.
Houses are expensive.
That is a big mountain.

Sentences with adverbials.

- **Adverbials** are added to sentences to change the meaning.

The horses ran very quickly.
A man was slowly walking over the bridge.
The dog eagerly chased the cat.
Houses are very expensive today.
Unfortunately, the river is too wide for us to cross.

Two more sentence patterns.

4. Subject + Verb + Object + Object (SVOO).

- The first object term is called the **INDIRECT** object, and the second object term is called the **DIRECT** object.

Mary gave John a book.

John is making Mary a cup of tea.

Mary will send John a letter.

John lent Mary his bicycle.

5. Subject + Verb + Object + Complement (SVOC).

- The complement can be an (i) adjective or (ii) prepositional phrase.

Mary gave a book to John.

The gift made John happy.

John put the book on the table.

Compound sentences.

- Compound sentences are formed using an eighth kind of word, called a **CONJUNCTION**.

and, or, but, because, if, when

- A conjunction is used to combine two sentences to make a new sentence.

Roses are red and violets are blue.

Houses are expensive but interest rates are low.

Houses are expensive because interest rates are low.

- Instead of repeating the same word in the second sentence, it is often replaced by a pronoun.

Mary gave John a book and he lent her his bicycle.

The gift will make Mary happy or she will send John a letter.

John made Mary a cup of tea but she didn't drink it.

- When both sentences have the same subject, the second sentence is often written without the subject term.

John put the book on the table and made a cup of tea for Mary.

The gift was very expensive but made John happy.

Three kinds of clause.

1. Finite clause.

- A finite clause contains a complete sentence, and often begins with *that*.

*Mary hoped **that John would like the book.***

*John knows **that houses are expensive.***

*It is possible **the car will be fixed by Tuesday.***

2. Infinitive clause.

- An infinitive clause contains the infinitive form of a verb.

*Mary wanted **to leave.***

- Sometimes the infinitive clause contains a **subject** or an **object** term, or both.

*It is not easy **to find a new apartment.***

*Mary wanted **John to leave.***

*It was difficult **for John to find a new apartment.***

- Infinitive clauses can be subject terms too.

***To find a good apartment** can be difficult.*

3. Gerundial clause.

- A gerundial clause contains the *-ing* form (gerund) of a verb.

***Reading** helps you to learn English vocabulary.*

- Sometimes a gerundial clause has a **subject** term or an **object** term, or both.

***Finding a good apartment** can be difficult.*

*We were all surprised by **John buying that house.***

- When the gerund is *being*, sometimes it is left out:

***[Being]** covered in dust, the room looked very untidy.*

***[Being]** happy with the result, Mary went home.*

Relative clauses.

- A relative clause forms part of a noun phrase.
- A relative clause modifies the noun, just like an adjective does.
- Relative clauses often begin with *that* or *which*.

*the book **that Mary bought for John***

*the tea **which John made for Mary***

*the houses **we visited today***

- The noun is called the ANTECEDENT of the relative clause.