

ENGLISH 10 UNIT I

LESSON THREE: SENTENCE PATTERNS

Every sentence in the English language follows certain patterns and has certain elements. You must be able to recognize the elements in order to understand the sentence better.

A sentence is a group of words with two main parts: a subject (who/what did it?) and a verb/predicate (what was done?).

1. **Subjects** – tell who or what the sentence is about.
 - a. Subjects are either nouns or pronouns (Bob, he).
 - b. Subjects may be single words or groups of words (Mary, Empire State Building).
 - c. Subjects may have adjectives (The blue book, His funny girl).
 - d. Subjects may be compound (Sue and Bob, the dog and the cat).
 - e. Subjects always come before the verb, except in questions (Will *you* come here?), in sentences that begin with “here” or “there” (Here is my *book*.), and in sentences to emphasize the subject (High on the cliff was an *eagle*.).
 - f. Subjects could be understood (Stand here. – *you* is understood to be the subject).
 - g. Subjects will never be found in prepositional phrases.
2. **Verbs** – word or words that make a statement about the subject; show action, state of being or link something to the subject.
 - a. Verbs can be single words or a group of words (ran, will run, have been running).
 - b. Verbs can be compound (ran and jumped).
 - c. Verbs can be action or linking (ran, is).
 - d. Verbs generally follow subjects, except in questions (*Is* Jim here?), in sentences that begin with “here” or “there” (Here *is* my book.), and in sentences to emphasize the subject (Over the mountain *was* the train.).
 - e. Verbs can be separated by other words (will *not* run, can *we* go).
 - f. Verbs will never be found in prepositional phrases.
3. **Direct Objects** – a noun or pronoun that receives the action of an action verb. (He hit *the ball*.)
4. **Indirect Objects** – a noun or pronoun that appears with a direct object and names the person or thing that something is given to or done for. (He gave *me* the ball).
5. **Predicate Nouns** – noun or pronoun that appears with a linking verb and renames, identifies or explains the subject. (He is *the winner*.)
6. **Predicate Adjective** – an adjective that appears with a linking verb and describes the subject. (I am *happy*.)

A **sentence** is a group of words containing a verb and its subject and expressing a complete thought. Sentences follow one of five traditional patterns:

S + V

- a. Pete shouted.
- b. Pete shouted loudly.
- c. He walked.
- d. He walked down the street.
- e. Halt! (understood subject – "you")

Ex. _____

S + LV + PA

- a. I am tired.
- b. Mary looked frazzled.
- c. Tom was late for school.

Ex. _____

S + LV + PN

- a. He was a doctor.
- b. During the summer, I am a lifeguard.
- c. It is I.

Ex. _____

S + AV + DO

- a. Tom hit the ball.
- b. A group of musicians entered the concert.
- c. We watched the old movie after school last night.

Ex. _____

S + AV + IO + DO

- a. Give me that book, please. ("you")
- b. He bought me a candy bar for lunch.
- c. You show me a hero, and I'll write you a tragedy.

Ex. _____