

Parts of a Sentence

The basic parts of a sentence are the subject, the verb, and (often, but not always) the object. The subject is usually a noun — a word that names a person, place, or thing, Or a pronoun like I, YOU, WE, THEY. The verb (or predicate) usually follows the subject and identifies an action or a state of being. An object receives the action and usually follows the verb.

Adjectives and Adverbs

A common way of expanding the basic sentence is with modifiers, words that add to the meanings of other words. The simplest modifiers are adjectives and adverbs. Adjectives modify nouns, while adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

Prepositional Phrases

Like adjectives and adverbs, prepositional phrases add meaning to the nouns and verbs in sentences. A prepositional phrase has two basic parts: a preposition plus a noun or a pronoun that serves as the object of the preposition.

Basic Sentence Structure

There are four basic sentence structures in English:

- A *simple sentence* is a sentence with just one independent clause (also called a main clause): Ali learns law.
- A *compound sentence* contains at least two independent clauses: Ali learns and Ahmed plays. A *complex sentence* contains an independent clause and at least one dependent clause. Ali learns when Ahmed plays.
- A *compound-complex sentence* contains two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause: *Ali was learning and Ahmed was playing when , their father arrived.*

Coordination

A common way to connect related words, phrases, and even entire clauses is to coordinate them — that is, connect them with a basic coordinating conjunction such as "and" or "but."