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BASIC SENTENCE STRUCTUREParts of Sentences: Subject, Predicate, Object, Indirect Object, ComplementEvery word in a sentence serves a specific purpose within the structure of that particular sentence.According to rules of grammar, sentence structure can sometimes be quite complicated.For the sake of simplicity, however, the basic parts of a sentence are discussed here.The two most basic parts of a sentence are the subject and predicate.SUBJECTThe subject of a sentence is the person, place, or thing that is performing the action of the sentence.The subject represents what or whom the sentence is about.The simple subject usually contains a noun or pronoun and can include modifying words, phrases, or clauses.The man . . .PREDICATEThe predicate expresses action or being within the sentence.The simple predicate contains the verb and can also contain modifying words, phrases, or clauses.The man / builds a house.The subject and predicate make up the two basic structural parts of any complete sentence. In addition, there are other elements, contained within the subject or predicate, that add meaning or detail. These elements include the direct object, indirect object, and subject complement. All of these elements can be expanded and further combined into simple, compound, complex, or compound/complex sentences. (See TIP Sheet on "Sentence Type and Purpose.")DIRECT OBJECTThe direct object receives the action of the sentence.The direct object is usually a noun or pronoun.The man builds a house.The man builds it.INDIRECT OBJECTThe indirect object indicates to whom or for whom the action of the sentence is being done.The indirect object is usually a noun or pronoun.The man builds his family a house.The man builds them a house.SUBJECT COMPLEMENTA subject complement either renames or describes the subject, and therefore is usually a noun, pronoun, or adjective.Subject complements occur when there is a linking verb within the sentence (often a linking verb is a form of the verb to be).The man is a good father.(father = noun which renames the subject)The man seems kind.(kind = adjective which describes the subject)Note:As an example of the difference between parts of speech and parts of a sentence, a noun can function within a sentence as subject, direct object, indirect object, object of a preposition, or subject complement.For more information on the structure and formation of sentences, see the following TIP Sheets: Sentence Types and PurposesSentence FragmentsIndependent and Dependent Clauses: Coordination and SubordinationPrepositions and Prepositional PhrasesOther Phrases: Verbal, Appositive, AbsoluteComma Splices and Run-on SentencesThe Eight Parts of SpeechNounsPronounsVerbsAdjectivesAdverbsConjunctionsInterjections Sometimes to understand a word's meaning you need more than a definition; you need to see the word used in a sentence. At YourDictionary, we give you the tools to learn what a word means and how to use it correctly. With this sentence maker, simply type a word in the search bar and see a variety of sentences with that word used in its different ways. Our sentence generator can provide more context and relevance, ensuring you use a word the right way. Whether its simple sentences for those just learning the English language or phrasing for an academic paper, this easy-to-use sentence generator will help you choose your words with confidence. With our sentence examples, seeing a word within the context of a sentence helps you better understand it and know how to use it correctly. From long to short, simple to complex, this tool can assist you with how to use words that may have more than one meaning. 1 Simply type in the word you want to explore the meaning of and find your screen filled with countless examples of that word in a sentence. 2 Scroll through the sentence list to see the sentence that best meets the context you're looking for. 3 Use the up and down vote icons to the right of a sentence to vote for examples and see how useful other users have found the individual sentence examples. This feedback can help you gauge which ones might be the most helpful for what you are searching for. 4 When you've discovered just the right sentence, you can copy it to your clipboard. You can also report a problem or give feedback. If you want to hear how the word is said, we can assist with that too. Just click on the speaker icon at the top of the page to listen to a clear pronunciation of the word. There are many types of sentences, all with different structures and complexities. In its most basic form, a sentence is made up of a subject and predicate, which is the verb and the words that follow. But no matter how simple or complex, a sentence consists of words. Words in a sentence are what make it come alive and make sense. Understand how words are used within the sentence, no matter the structure, and get inspiration for writing your own sentence correctly with the help of these example sentences. We get it. Learning the meaning of the many words that make up the English language can seem overwhelming. Take away the nerves and make it simple and easy to understand with the use of our sentence maker. YourDictionary strives to make learning as stress-free as possible, no matter what your age or understanding is. And our sentence examples are no different. We understand that sometimes the best way to truly understand a new concept is to see it used in an example. With the help of our useful tool, you can be one step ahead with grasping the complexity and workings of English vocabulary. With an increased understanding of how words can be used, you can make your writing come to life with an arsenal of words of varying difficulties and meanings. Simply type the word into the sentence generator and well do the rest. Welcome to this comprehensive guide on sentence structure types and examples! Whether you're a student looking to improve your writing skills or a professional aiming to enhance your communication abilities, understanding different sentence structures is essential. Just like a solid foundation is crucial for building a house, a clear structure is vital for effective writing. In this text, we'll explore the four main types of sentence structures: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. Each type has its own unique characteristics and uses, and by learning about them, you'll be able to add variety and depth to your writing. Well provide clear explanations and examples to help you grasp the concepts and become fluent in your English writing. Understanding different sentence structures (simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex) is crucial for effective writing and communication. Simple sentences consist of a single independent clause and follow the Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) pattern. Compound sentences contain two or more independent clauses joined together by coordinating conjunctions or a semicolon. Complex sentences consist of one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses, which provide additional information or add complexity to the sentence. Compound-complex sentences combine the features of both compound and complex sentences and include two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. Incorporating different sentence structures in writing adds variety, depth, and clarity to the writing, and helps convey thoughts and ideas more effectively. A sentence is a fundamental unit of communication in the English language. It is a group of words that expresses a complete thought or idea. Understanding sentence structure is crucial for effective writing and communication. Lets dive deeper into the concept of sentence structure and explore its types and examples. Sentence: A group of words that expresses a complete thought or idea. Clause: A group of words that contains both a subject and a verb. Independent Clause: A clause that can stand alone as a complete sentence. Dependent Clause: A clause that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. Simple Sentences: These are the easiest type of sentences, consisting of a single independent clause. They follow the Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) pattern. Example: You are reading a book. Compound Sentences: These sentences consist of two or more independent clauses joined together by coordinating conjunctions (e.g., and, but, or, so) or a semicolon. Example: I like to read, and she prefers to write. Complex Sentences: These sentences contain one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses. The dependent clause provides additional information or adds complexity to the sentence. Example: Although it was raining, we decided to go for a walk. Compound-Complex Sentences: These sentences combine the features of compound and complex sentences. They consist of two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. Example: She went to the store, but she forgot her wallet because she was in a hurry. READ: Interjections in English Grammar: From 'Wow' to 'Oops'Understanding different sentence structures enables you to express your thoughts clearly and effectively. It also helps you avoid common errors, such as sentence fragments and run-on sentences. By mastering sentence structure, you can enhance your writing skills and improve your overall communication abilities. When it comes to language, sentence structure plays a vital role in effective communication and writing. Understanding sentence structure allows you to express your thoughts clearly and avoid common errors. In this section, we will explore what sentence structure is and why it is important in writing. Sentence: Lets start with a basic definition. A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. It consists of a subject (the main noun or pronoun that the sentence is about) and a predicate (the part of the sentence that tells us something about the subject). For example, in the sentence She loves to read, She is the subject and loves to read is the predicate. Structure: Sentence structure refers to how words and phrases are organized in a sentence. By understanding and utilizing different sentence structures, you can add variety to your writing and make it more engaging for your readers. Types of Sentence Structure: There are four main types of sentence structures: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. Lets take a closer look at each type. Simple Sentence: A simple sentence contains one independent clause, which is a complete thought that can stand alone as a sentence. Example: I enjoy hiking. Compound Sentence: A compound sentence consists of two or more independent clauses joined together by a coordinating conjunction (such as and, but, or, or). Example: I love to hike, and I also enjoy swimming. Complex Sentence: A complex sentence contains one independent clause and at least one dependent clause, which relies on the independent clause to form a complete thought. Example: After I finish hiking, I like to relax. Compound-Complex Sentence: A compound-complex sentence combines two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. Example: I enjoy hiking, but if the weather is bad, I prefer to stay indoors and read. Understanding the different types of sentence structures allows you to vary your writing style and create a more engaging piece. It also helps you convey your thoughts and ideas more effectively, enhancing your overall communication abilities. In this section, we will explore the different types of sentence structures and provide examples to help you understand their usage. By familiarizing yourself with these structures, you can add variety and engagement to your writing. Lets immerse! READ: Adverbs of Manner: Examples and Usage Explained A simple sentence is a basic sentence construction that consists of one independent clause. It typically has a simple subject and a verb, and it can also include an object. Here are some examples of simple sentences: The car stopped out front of the house. They ran away. A compound sentence is made up of two or more independent clauses joined together by coordinating conjunctions such as and, but, or, or. It allows you to express multiple ideas in a clear and concise way. Here are some examples of compound sentences: I like to read, and my brother prefers to watch movies. She studied hard for the test, but she still didnt get a good grade. A complex sentence consists of one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. The dependent clause cannot stand alone as a sentence and relies on the independent clause to complete its meaning. Complex sentences help you convey more intricate thoughts and relationships between ideas. Here are some examples of complex sentences: Because she had a fever, she stayed home from school. When I was ten years old, I used to play soccer with my friends. A compound-complex sentence is a combination of a compound sentence and a complex sentence. It contains two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. This structure allows for the expression of complex ideas and relationships in a single sentence. Here is an example of a compound-complex sentence: Tom cried because the ball hit him, and I apologized immediately. Understanding the different types of sentence structures is essential for improving your writing skills. By incorporating these structures into your writing, you can create more engaging and varied content. Experiment with different sentence structures to add depth and clarity to your writing. Understanding the different types of sentence structures is essential for improving your writing skills and creating more engaging and varied content. By incorporating various sentence structures, you can add depth, variety, and emphasis to your writing. Here are some examples of different sentence structures that you can use in your own writing: Definition: A simple sentence consists of a single independent clause. It contains a subject and a verb and expresses a complete thought. Example: I love to read.Definition: A compound sentence is made up of two or more independent clauses joined together by coordinating conjunctions, such as and, but, or, so. Example: I love to read, and my sister enjoys writing.Definition: A complex sentence contains one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. The dependent clause cannot stand alone as a complete thought. Example: Although I love to read, I rarely have time for it.Compound-Complex Sentences:Definition: A compound-complex sentence consists of two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause. Example: I love to read, but I rarely have time for it since I started working full-time. These examples provide a glimpse into the different structures that you can use to enhance your writing. By incorporating varied sentence structures, you can add rhythm, clarity, and sophistication to your prose. Experiment with different sentence structures to find the ones that best convey your message and engage your readers. READ: Mastering Simple Present Tense: Rules, Examples, and UsageIncorporating sentence variety not only adds interest to your writing but also allows you to convey complex ideas more effectively. Varying your sentence structures can help you emphasize certain points, create suspense, or provide a smooth flow of information. So, dont be afraid to experiment with different sentence structures as you develop your writing skills. The more you practice, the more comfortable you will become with using different sentence structures to enhance your writing. Remember, mastering sentence structures takes time and practice. Keep honing your skills by reading examples of well-structured sentences and analyzing how authors create variety and impact through their sentence choices. As you continue to improve your understanding of sentence structures, you'll be able to take your writing to new heights and captivate your readers with your style and clarity. Understanding different sentence structures is essential for improving your writing skills and communication abilities. By grasping the concept of sentence structure and its components, such as the subject and predicate, you can elevate your writing to new heights. Throughout this article, we have explored the four main types of sentence structures: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. By incorporating these different sentence structures into your writing, you can add variety, engagement, and depth. The examples provided have demonstrated how each structure can be used to convey ideas effectively and emphasize certain points. Experimenting with sentence structures allows you to craft well-structured sentences that effectively communicate complex ideas and captivate your readers. To further enhance your understanding and mastery of sentence structures, it is crucial to practice and analyze well-constructed sentences. By doing so, you can refine your writing skills and develop a strong command of sentence structures. So, embrace the power of sentence structures and unleash your writing potential. With a solid grasp of sentence structure types and their examples, you can create compelling and impactful written pieces that leave a lasting impression. A sentence is a complete idea with a subject and a verb, starting with a capital letter: There are four main sentence structures: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.Sentences can be declarative, interrogative, imperative, or exclamatory. A sentence is the largest independent unit of grammar; it begins with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation point. The word "sentence" is from the Latin for "to feel." The adjective form of the word is "sentential." The sentence is traditionally (and inadequately) defined as a word or group of words that expresses a complete idea and that includes a subject and a verb. The four basic sentence structures are the:Declarative: "Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society."(Mark Twain)Interrogative:"But what is the difference between literature and journalism? Journalism is unreadable and literature is not read." (Oscar Wilde)Imperative:"Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint." (Mark Twain)Exclamatory:"To die for an idea; it is unquestionably noble. But how much nobler it would be if men died for ideas that were true!"(H. L. Mencken) "I am trying to say it all in one sentence, between one Cap and one period." (William Faulkner in a letter to Malcolm Cowley) "The term 'sentence' is widely used to refer to quite different types of unit. Grammatically, it is the highest unit and consists of one independent clause, or two or more related clauses. Orthographically and rhetorically, it is that unit which starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark." (Angela Downing, "English Grammar: A University Course," 2nd ed. Routledge, 2006) "I have taken as my definition of a sentence any combination of words whatsoever, beyond the simple naming of an object of sense." (Kathleen Carter Moore, "The Mental Development of a Child," 1896) "[A sentence is] a unit of speech constructed according to language-dependent rules, which is relatively complete and independent in respect to content, grammatical structure, and intonation." (Hadumo Bussmann, "Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics," Trans. by Lee Forester et al. Routledge, 1996) "A written sentence is a word or group of words that conveys meaning to the listener, can be responded to or is part of a response, and is punctuated." (Andrew S. Rothstein and Evelyn Rothstein, "English Grammar Instruction That Works!" Corwin Press, 2009) "None of the usual definitions of a sentence really says much, but every sentence ought somehow to organize a pattern of thought, even if it does not always reduce that thought to bite-sized pieces." (Richard Lanham, "Revising Prose," Scribner's, 1979)"The sentence has been defined as the largest unit for which there are rules of grammar." (Christian Lehmann, "Theoretical Implications of Grammaticalization Phenomena," Published in "The Role of Theory in Language Description," ed by William A. Foley, Mouton de Gruyter, 1993) Sidney Greenbaum and Gerald Nelson give a different take in explaining what a sentence is and does: "It is sometimes said that a sentence expresses a complete thought. This is a notional definition: it defines a term by the notion or idea it conveys. The difficulty with this definition lies in fixing what is meant by a 'complete thought.' There are notices, for example, that seem to be complete in themselves but are not generally regarded as sentences: Exit, Danger, 50 mph speed limit...On the other hand, there are sentences that clearly consist of more than one thought. Here is one relatively simple example: This week marks the 300th anniversary of the publication of Sir Isaac Newton's Philosophiae Naturalis Principia Mathematica, a fundamental work for the whole of modern science and (2) that it was a key influence on the philosophy of the European Enlightenment. How many 'complete thoughts' are there in this sentence? We should at least recognize that the part after the comma introduces two additional points about Newton's book: (1) that it is a fundamental work for the whole of modern science, and (2) that it was a key influence on the philosophy of the European Enlightenment. Yet this example would be acknowledged by all as a single sentence, and it is written as a single sentence." (Sidney Greenbaum and Gerald Nelson, "An Introduction to English Grammar, 2nd ed." Pearson, 2002) D.J. Allerton provides an alternative definition of a sentence:"Traditional attempts to define the sentence were generally either psychological or logical-analytic in nature: the former type spoke of 'a complete thought' or some other inaccessible psychological phenomenon; the latter type, following Aristotle, expected to find every sentence made up of a logical subject and logical predicate, units that themselves rely on the sentence for their definition. A more fruitful approach is that of [Otto] Jespersen (1924: 307), who suggests testing the completeness and independence of a sentence, by assessing its potential for standing alone, as a complete utterance." (D. J. Allerton, "Essentials of Grammatical Theory," Routledge, 1979) Stanley Fish felt that a sentence can only be defined in two parts: "A sentence is a structure of logical relationships. In its bare form, this proposition is hardly edifying, which is why I immediately supplement it with a simple exercise. 'Here, I say, are five words randomly chosen: turn them into a sentence.' (The first time I did this the words were coffee, should, book, garbage and quickly.) In no time at all I am presented with 20 sentences, all perfectly coherent and all quite different. Then comes the hard part. 'What is it, I ask, 'that you did? What did it take to turn a random list of words into a sentence?' A lot of fumbling and stumbling and false starts follow, but finally someone says, 'I put the words into a relationship with one another...'Well, my bottom line can be summarized in two statements: (1) a sentence is an organization of items in the world; and (2) a sentence is a structure of logical relationships." (Stanley Fish, "Devoid of Content," The New York Times, May 31, 2005. Also "How to Write a Sentence and How to Read One." HarperCollins, 2011) Some authors a humorous view of a sentence:"One day the Nouns were clustered in the street. An adjective walked by, with her dark beauty. The Nouns were struck, moved, changed.The next day a Verb drove up, and created the Sentence..." (Kenneth Koch, "Permanently," Published in "The Collected Poems of Kenneth Koch," Borzoi Books, 2005)A sentence in English is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. Every sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with punctuation, such as a period, question mark, or exclamation point. Sentences are essential in exams and daily communication. Basic Structure of SentencesMost sentences in English grammar follow a simple pattern: subject + predicate. The subject tells who or what the sentence is about. The predicate says something about the subject. Understanding this structure helps students write better answers and avoid incomplete sentences. The dog sleeps. My friends are playing. Types of Sentences in English GrammarThere are four main types of sentences: declarative, interrogative, imperative, and exclamatory. Each serves a different purpose and helps us express thoughts, ask questions, give commands, or show feelings. Vedantu helps you recognize and use these to strengthen your English grammar skills. Examples of Each Sentence TypeDeclarative: She loves music. Interrogative: Do you like pizza? Imperative: Finish your homework. Exclamatory: That was amazing! Parts of a SentenceSentences can have different components. These include subject, verb, object, complements, and modifiers. Recognizing these parts lets you identify sentence errors and build strong, clear sentences for school and tests. PartRoleExampleSubjectWho/What the sentence is aboutJohn eats apples.VerbAction or stateShe runs every day.ObjectReceives the actionRita reads books.ComplementCompletes the meaningHe is a doctor.ModifierAdds detailThe tall boy smiled. 10 Simple Sentence ExamplesSeeing simple sentences helps you write your own. Here are clear daily-use examples you can use for practice or exams:The sun is shining.I have a pen.My mother cooks food.We play football.She likes to read.Birds fly in the sky.It is raining.The baby is sleeping.Dogs bark at night.He goes to school. Common Sentence Errors and How to Avoid ThemSentence fragments and run-ons can confuse readers and cost marks in exams. Always check for a complete subject and verb. Join independent ideas with correct punctuation or linking words. This prevents mistakes and strengthens your grammar confidence for class and beyond. Fragment: Because it was raining. (Incorrect) Complete: Because it was raining, we stayed inside. Run-on: She likes apples she eats them daily. (Incorrect) Corrected: She likes apples, so she eats them daily. Punctuation in SentencesGood punctuation makes sentences clear. Use a period for statements, a question mark for questions, and an exclamation mark for strong emotion. For exam writing, accurate punctuation shows clarity and careful grammar. Which Vedantu encourages in all lessons. Statement: My friend is here. Question: Are you ready? Exclamation: Look out! In summary, understanding sentences in English grammar helps you write and speak with clarity. Knowing the types, common errors, and simple examples builds confidence for exams and daily communication. Practicing with Vedantu resources will support your journey in mastering English sentences. To learn more about building strong sentences, visit Sentence Structure at Vedantu. For extra practice and rules, explore our Types of Sentences guide.noun (5)verb (used with object) (1)View synonyms for sentenceGrammar.a grammatical unit of one or more words that expresses an independent statement, question, request, command, exclamation, etc., and that typically has a subject as well as a predicate, as in John is here. or Is John here? In print or writing, a sentence typically begins with a capital letter and ends with appropriate punctuation; in speech it displays recognizable, communicative intonation patterns and is often marked by preceding and following pauses.Law an authoritative decision; a judicial judgment or decree, especially the judicial determination of the punishment to be inflicted on a convicted criminal.Knowledgeable sources say that the judge will announce the sentence early next week.the punishment itself, term.Music.a complete idea, usually consisting of eight to sixteen measures; period.Archaic.a saying, apothegm, or maxim.Obsolete.an opinion given on a particular question.to pronounce sentence upon; condemn to punishment.The judge sentenced her to six months in jail.a sequence of words capable of standing alone to make an assertion, ask a question, or give a command, usually consisting of a subject and a predicate containing a finite verb.the judgment formally pronounced upon a person convicted in criminal proceedings, esp the decision as to what punishment is to be imposedan opinion, judgment, or decisionmusic another word for periodany short passage of scripture employed in liturgical useologic a well-formed expression, without variablesarchaic a proverb, maxim, or aphorismCollins English Dictionary Complete & Unabridged 2012 Digital Edition William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012(tr) to pronounce sentence on (a convicted person) in a court of lawthe judge sentenced the murderer to life imprisonmentCollins English Dictionary Complete & Unabridged 2012 Digital Edition William Collins Sons & Co. Ltd. 1979, 1986 HarperCollins Publishers 1998, 2000, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2012A sentence is the largest grammatical unit in language. It communicates a complete thoughtan assertion, question, command, or exclamation. In general, assertions and questions are overwhelming majority of sentencesrequire a subject and a verb, put together in a way that can stand alone, resulting in what is called an independent clause (main clause.) He kicked the ball is a sentence. After he kicked the ball is not a sentence; instead it is a dependent clause (subordinate clause.) Even though it has a subject and a verb, it needs to be connected to something in order to complete the assertion: After he kicked the ball, he fell down; or He fell down after he kicked the ball. In the case of commands, the subject need not be written because you is understood: Go home! means You go home! And exclamations clearly express excitement, alarm, anger, or the like with no need for either a subject or a verb: Wow! Gadzooks! Ouch! In everyday speech we routinely use phrases or clauses that would not make a complete sentence-called sentence fragments because the conversation or the circumstances make the meaning clear. For example, we might answer a question like Where did you go? with To the store, or Why can't I stay out till midnight? with Because I say so, or What are you doing? with Trying to fix this toaster, instead of I went to the store. You can't stay out that late because I say so, or I am trying to fix this toaster. In written dialogue sentence fragments are perfectly acceptable. They would generally be regarded as sentences simply because they begin with a capital letter and end with a suitable punctuation mark. But they are not sentences in a strict grammatical sense. And as a rule, sentence fragments are frowned upon in formal or expository writing. They can be usefulindeed, powerfulbut in such writing they are effective only if used sparingly, in order to achieve a deliberate special effect. We will not try out fighting for this cause. Not now. Not ever.sentence nonpronunciation verb (used with object)resentence nonnounsentence adjectivesentential adjectiveOrigin of sentence1 first recorded in 11751225; (noun) Middle English, from Old French, frm Latin sententia opinion, decision, equivalent to sent- (base of sentire to feel) + -entia -ence; (verb) Middle English: to pass judgment, decide judicially, from Old French sentence, derivative of sentenceOrigin of sentence1 C13; via Old French from Latin sententia a way of thinking, from sentire to feelExamples have not been reviewed On Friday, the 65-year-old was sentenced to 20 years in prison for conspiracy to supply Class A drugs at Woolwich Crown Court.Bryson Gaddis, 20, was arrested Wednesday and, if convicted, faces a potential sentence of life in prison in the vicious beating death of Elijah Hearn, according to the Los Angeles County district attorneys office.Mdlul was later sentenced to five years in jail for kidnapping, assault, and intimidation, vindicting Gen Mkhwanazi's view that he was a rotten apple within the police service.She received a sentence of six months' imprisonment, suspended for two years.The maximum sentence that had been open to the sheriff was 12 months in jail.sentence adverbBrowse#aabccddeeffghhijjklmnnnooppqrrsstuuvwxyzzAboutCareersContact usCookies, terms, & privacyHelpFollow usGet the Word of the Day every day! 2025 Dictionary.com, LLC Whether you're writing a research paper, crafting a personal essay, or sending a professional email, spotting key sentence parts and understanding how different types of sentences work helps you communicate with clarity and style.Basic Sentence Parts A subject is a person, animal, place, thing, or concept that does an action. Determine the subject in a sentence by asking the question, Who or what?Example I like spaghetti. I = subjectExample He reads many books. He = subject A verb expresses what the person, animal, place, thing, or concept does. Determine the verb in a sentence by asking the question, What was the action or what happened?Example I like spaghetti. like = verbExample He reads many books. reads = verb A person, animal, place, thing, or concept that receives the action. Determine the object in a sentence by asking the question, The subject did what? or To whom?Example I like spaghetti. spaghetti = objectExample He reads many books. many books = object A dependent clause is not a complete sentence. It must be attached to an independent clause to become complete. This is also known as a subordinate clause.Example Although I like spaghetti This dependent clause introduces a contrast. It suggests that despite liking spaghetti, something else is true, but we dont have the rest of the information to know what that is.Example Because he reads many books This dependent clause introduces a reason or cause. It suggests that reading many books leads to some result or consequence, but we dont know what that without additional information. An independent clause can stand alone as a sentence. It contains a subject and a verb and is a complete idea.Example I like spaghetti. I = subject like = verb spaghetti = objectExample Because he reads many books He = subject reads = verb many books = object A phrase that begins with a preposition (like in, at, for, behind, after, during) and modifies a word in the sentence. A prepositional phrase answers one of many questions. Here are a few examples: Where? When? In what way?Example I like spaghetti for dinner. This prepositional phrase starts with for and provides information about when the spaghetti is preferred.Example He reads many books in the library. This prepositional phrase starts with in and provides information about where the reading happens. Over 100 interactive activities for each SentenceBuilders resource. Word gap-fills, chunk gap-fills, missing letters, sentence scrambles, translations to and from the L2, dictations powered by TTS. Activities based on vocab chunks and sentences generated by each SentenceBuilder. Plus most SB Premium resources include paragraph level comprehension and text reconstruction activities too. Use our authoring tools to create your own printable, interactive SentenceBuilders based on your own content. Each SentenceBuilder generates 100s or even 1000s of sentences, which form the basis of the content for all of the interactive activities. Use the SentenceBuilder teacher tools for presentation and front-of-class interaction.

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