

UNIT – 1

GRAMMAR

1.1 Grammar: Introduction to Sentence Structure in English

1(a) The Subject and the Predicate

Subjects and Predicates: The Building Blocks of Sentences

The **subject** is the foundation, telling you who or what the sentence is about.

The **predicate** is everything else in the sentence, what the subject does or is.

Subject (Foundation)

- Identifies the main character, thing, or idea in a sentence.
- Answers the question "Who?" or "What?"

Predicate (The Rest of the House)

- Tells what the subject is doing or being.
- Contains the verb (action word) and other words that complete the thought.
- Answers the question "What is happening?"

What Do You Mean by Sentence Structure?

Sentence structure is a grammatical component that tells you exactly where and how each component of a sentence should be placed in order to blend and make sense.

The Collins Dictionary defines sentence structure as “the grammatical arrangement of words in sentences.”

In other words, the sentence structure is what defines the way a sentence will look and sound.

Basic Parts and Components of a Sentence

Before we look into how sentence structure works, we will have to first learn about the basic structure of a sentence and Parts of a Sentence.

A sentence, in the English language, consists of at least a subject and a predicate. In other words, a sentence should have a subject and a verb.

Subject

The subject can be a noun or a pronoun that performs the action.

- The dog is barking.
- The river flows swiftly.

Predicate

The verb is the action performed by the particular subject in the sentence.

- She enjoys playing chess.
- Rohan has a bicycle.

- Alex can swim.

Components of a Sentence

Like a sentence has two parts, it has five main components that make up the structure of a sentence, and they are:

- Subject
- Verb
- Object
- Complement
- Adjunct

1. Subject

A noun that performs the action in a sentence is considered the subject. It answers the question 'who' or in other words, a subject can be identified by asking the question 'who'. A subject takes the first place in most cases, especially in declarative or assertive sentences.

- The teacher explained the lesson.
- My cousin won the race.
- His cat is very playful.
- Patience pays off.
- Everyone enjoyed the concert.

2. Verb

In every sentence, the most important word can be said to be the verb. A verb shows action or activity or work done by the subject. Remember that all verbs including main verbs, helping verbs, stative verbs, and action verbs come under this category. Most often, verbs appear immediately after the subject.

- Maya is reading a book.
- The weather was chilly.
- I feel sleepy.
- His laptop stopped working.
- The bird flew away.

3. Object

An object is a noun or pronoun that receives the action done by the subject. Objects are of two types: Direct Object and Indirect Object.

Direct Object

A noun or pronoun that receives the action directly is the direct object in the sentence. It answers the question 'what'. Direct objects mostly appear immediately after the verb and are the primary objects in the sentence.

- John bought a laptop.
- My aunt baked cookies.
- I visited my grandparents.
- She understands the concept.
- We watched a play.

Indirect Object

An indirect object is a noun or pronoun that is a secondary object. It can be identified by asking the question 'whom'. When there is an indirect object in a sentence, it is mostly placed after the verb and before the direct object.

- Raj gave Priya a gift.
- My father bought me a bicycle.
- She handed him the keys.
- They offered us shelter during the storm.
- He sent his friend a letter.

4. Complement

The words required to complete the meaning of a sentence can be referred to as the complement of the sentence. A complement can be an adjective, a name, a position, or a profession.

- It became foggy.
- She is an engineer.
- That's their cat, Whiskers.

Complements are further divided into two types based on which component it speaks about. The two types of complement are:

- Subject Complement
- Object Complement

Subject Complement

The complement which expresses the quality or identity or condition of the subject is called Subject Complement.

- He is a musician.
- I am Emily.
- Sunil is diligent.
- The players are excited.
- My sister is a nurse.

Object Complement

The complement which expresses the quality or identity or condition of an object is called Object Complement.

- The teacher made him nervous.
- The committee appointed Sarah the new manager.
- They called their pet, Buddy.
- Lucy met her colleague, John.
- Everyone found the puzzle challenging.

5. Adjunct

An adjunct is a word or a phrase that gives more information about an action, an event, a quality, and so on. In short, it can be said that these words can include adverbs and adverb clauses. Adjuncts can be identified

by asking questions 'when', 'where', 'why', 'how', 'how often', and 'to what extent'.

When using adjuncts, keep in mind that adjuncts can be used in the beginning, middle, or end of the sentence and that there can be more than one adjunct in a sentence.

- Last night, we went to a concert.
- She is extremely happy.
- Due to the heavy rain, the match was postponed.
- My mother walks in the park every morning.
- This task is incredibly difficult.

Sentences: Simple, Compound, and Complex

1. Simple Sentences

A simple sentence has the most basic elements that make it a sentence: a subject, a verb, and a completed thought.

Joe waited for the train.

"Joe" = subject, "waited" = verb

The train was late.

"The train" = subject, "was" = verb

Mary and Samantha took the bus.

"Mary and Samantha" = compound subject, "took" = verb

I looked for Mary and Samantha at the bus station.

"I" = subject, "looked" = verb

Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station early but waited until noon for the bus.

"Mary and Samantha" = compound subject, "arrived" and "waited" = compound verb.

A simple sentence can also be referred to as an independent clause. It is referred to as "independent" because, while it might be part of a compound or complex sentence, it can also stand by itself as a complete sentence.

2. Compound Sentences

A compound sentence refers to a sentence made up of two independent clauses (or complete sentences) connected to one another with a coordinating conjunction. Coordinating conjunctions are easy to remember if you think of the words "FAN BOYS":

- For
- And
- Nor
- But
- Or
- Yet
- So
- Joe waited for the train, but the train was late.
- I looked for Mary and Samantha at the bus station, but they arrived at the station before noon and left on the bus before I arrived.

- Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon, and they left on the bus before I arrived.
- Mary and Samantha left on the bus before I arrived, so I did not see them at the bus station.

3. Complex Sentences

A complex sentence is made up of an independent clause and one or more dependent clauses connected to it.

A dependent clause is similar to an independent clause, or complete sentence, but it lacks one of the elements that would make it a complete sentence.

Examples of dependent clauses include the following:

- because Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon
- while he waited at the train station
- after they left on the bus

Dependent clauses such as those above cannot stand alone as a sentence, but they can be added to an independent clause to form a complex sentence.

Dependent clauses begin with subordinating conjunctions.

Below are some of the most common subordinating conjunctions:

- after
- although
- as
- because
- before
- even though
- if
- since
- though
- unless
- until
- when
- whenever
- whereas
- wherever
- while

A complex sentence joins an independent clause with one or more dependent clauses.

The dependent clauses can go first in the sentence, followed by the independent clause, as in the following:

Tip: When the dependent clause comes first, a comma should be used to separate the two clauses.

- Because Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon, I did not see them at the station.
- While he waited at the train station, Joe realized that the train was late.
- After they left on the bus, Mary and Samantha realized that Joe was waiting at the train station.

Conversely, the independent clauses can go first in the sentence, followed by the dependent clause, as in the following:

Exercise: Identify the Sentence Structure

Read the following sentences and state whether they are simple, complex or compound.

A simple sentence consists of just one clause.

A complex sentence consists of one independent clause and one or more dependent (subordinate) clauses.

A compound sentence consists of two or more coordinate (independent) clauses.

1. We were playing in the garden when the guests arrived.
2. She put on her coat and went out.
3. I can't figure out what he wants.
4. You don't look happy to see me.
5. The cat saw the puppies playing in the garden.
6. She leaned out of the window.
7. You shouldn't have done this to me.
8. They tried very hard but they couldn't win the match.
9. Who let the cat in?
10. Although it was raining, we went for a walk.

Answers

1. We were playing in the garden when the guests arrived. **(Complex sentence)**
2. She put on her coat and went out. **(Compound sentence)**
3. I can't figure out what he wants. **(Complex sentence)**
4. You don't look happy to see me. **(Simple sentence)**
5. The cat saw the puppies playing in the garden. **(Simple sentence)**
6. She leaned out of the window. **(Simple sentence)**
7. You shouldn't have done this to me. **(Simple sentence)**
8. They tried very hard but they couldn't win the match. **(Compound sentence)**
9. Who let the cat in? **(Simple sentence)**
10. Although it was raining, we went for a walk. **(Complex sentence)**

Exercise 1: Transforming Simple Sentences into Compound Sentences

Below are some simple sentences. Your task is to transform them into compound sentences using appropriate coordinating conjunctions.

1. The girl danced gracefully.
2. I woke up late.
3. Despite the heat, they continued to play.
4. The teacher entered the class.

5. If you don't start now, you'll miss the bus.
6. Even though it was late, she continued to work.
7. Because of the new policies, they had to work overtime.
8. The dog saw its owner.
9. I was too exhausted to continue.
10. In order to stay healthy, you need to exercise regularly.

Solutions for Exercise 1

1. The girl danced and did it gracefully.
2. I woke up and realized it was late.
3. It was hot, but they continued to play.
4. The teacher entered and started the class.
5. Start now, or you'll miss the bus.
6. It was late, but she continued to work.
7. There were new policies, so they had to work overtime.
8. The dog saw its owner and wagged its tail.
9. I was exhausted, so I couldn't continue.
10. You need to exercise regularly to stay healthy.

Exercise 2: Transforming Simple Sentences into Complex Sentences

Here are a few simple sentences for you. Your task is to transform them into complex sentences using suitable subordinating conjunctions.

1. Because of the storm, we stayed indoors.
2. To complete your project on time, start working now.
3. Besides being a good cook, she is also a wonderful singer.
4. Despite the challenges, he finished the race.
5. Seeing the baby, everyone smiled.
6. Without acknowledging your faults, you can't improve.
7. It's too early to predict the result.
8. The cat stretched and found a cozy spot on the sofa.
9. Due to financial constraints, the construction won't be completed on time.
10. Despite several attempts, she failed to clear the final round.

Solutions for Exercise 2

1. As it was stormy, we decided to stay indoors.
2. If you want to complete your project on time, start now.
3. She is not only a good cook but also a wonderful singer.
4. Even though there were challenges, he finished the race.
5. When everyone saw the baby, they smiled.

6. You can improve only if you acknowledge your faults.
7. It's so early that we can't predict the result.
8. When the cat stretched, it found a cozy spot on the sofa.
9. The construction won't be completed on time due to financial constraints.
10. Although she made several attempts, she failed to clear the final round.

Exercise 3: Transforming Compound Sentences into Complex Sentences

Here are some compound sentences for you. Your task is to transform them into complex sentences by replacing the coordinating conjunction with a suitable subordinating conjunction.

1. I completed my assignment and then went to play.
2. It was freezing, so I wore a jacket.
3. He is unwell, yet he helps his sister with her homework.
4. You need to practice more, or you won't perform well.
5. It was foggy, so we took the car.
6. My car ran out of gas, so I walked to the nearest gas station.
7. She was very sick, so we took her to the hospital.
8. He worked in a bookstore and studied Spanish at school.
9. You must follow the rules, or you will be penalized.
10. The bell rang and all the students gathered in the hall.

Solutions for Exercise 3

1. After I completed my assignment, I went to play.
2. It was so cold that I had to wear a jacket.
3. Although he is unwell, he helps his sister with her homework.
4. If you don't practice more, you won't perform well.
5. Since it was foggy, we took the car.
6. Because my car ran out of gas, I walked to the nearest gas station.
7. As she was very sick, we took her to the hospital.
8. He not only worked in a bookstore but also studied Spanish at school.
9. If you don't follow the rules, you will be penalized.
10. When the bell rang, all the students gathered in the hall.

1.2 Grammar: Introduction to Articles

In English grammar, articles are tiny words that come before nouns and tell us something about the noun: whether it's specific (definite) or non-specific (indefinite). There are three articles: a, an, and the.

Definite Article: The

- Use "the" when referring to a specific noun that the listener should already know about.

- This could be because the noun has already been mentioned in the conversation, or because there's only one of a kind.
- I'm going to the park (We likely already know which park is being referred to).
- Please close the door (There's only one door in question).
- The moon is beautiful tonight (There's only one moon!).

Indefinite Articles: A and An

- Use "a" or "an" when introducing a new, unspecific noun for the first time.
- "A" is used before words that start with a consonant sound (b, c, d, etc.).
- "An" is used before words that start with a vowel sound (a, e, i, o, u) or a silent "h" (hour).
- I saw a bird (consonant sound "b") flying in the sky.
- I would like to eat an apple (vowel sound "a").
- It is an honor (silent "h") to meet you.

Additional Points to Remember

- Some nouns, like proper nouns (names of people and places) or uncountable nouns (water, love, etc.), usually don't need articles.
- There are exceptions and special cases, so referring to a grammar guide can be helpful for more complex situations.

Remember:

- Definite (the): Use it for specific things, already mentioned or there's only one.
- Indefinite (a/an): Use it for introducing new, unspecific things. Choose "a" for consonant sounds and "an" for vowel sounds (or silent "h").

DEFINITE AND INDEFINITE ARTICLES

In English there are three articles: a, an, and the. Articles are used before nouns or noun equivalents and are a type of adjective. The definite article (the) is used before a noun to indicate that the identity of the noun is known to the reader. The indefinite article (a, an) is used before a noun that is general or when its identity is not known. There are certain situations in which a noun takes no article.

Definite article

the (before a singular or plural noun)

Indefinite article

a (before a singular noun beginning with a consonant sound)

an (before a singular noun beginning with a vowel sound)

Count nouns

Count nouns - refers to items that can be counted and are either singular or plural

Non-count nouns

Non-count nouns - refers to items that are not counted and are always singular

Rule #1: Specific identity not known

Rule #2: Specific identity known

Rule #3: All things or things in general

COUNT NOUNS: a, an / the / no article

NON-COUNT NOUNS: no article / the / no article

Count Nouns and Non-count Nouns

For the purposes of understanding how articles are used, it is important to know that nouns can be either count (can be counted) or non-count (indefinite in quantity and cannot be counted). In addition, count nouns are either singular (one) or plural (more than one). Non-count nouns are always in singular form.

For example, if we are speaking of water that has been spilled on the table, there can be one drop (singular) or two or more drops (plural) of water on the table. The word drop in this example is a count noun because we can count the number of drops. Therefore, according to the rules applying to count nouns, the word drop would use the articles a or the.

However, if we are speaking of water in general spilled on the table, it would not be appropriate to count one water or two waters -- there would simply be water on the table. Water is a non-count noun. Therefore, according to the rules applying to non-count nouns, the word water would use no article or the, but not a.

Rule #1 - Specific identity not known

Use the indefinite article 'a' or 'an' only with a singular count noun whose specific identity is not known to the reader. Use a before nouns that begin with a consonant sound, and use 'an' before nouns that begin with a vowel sound.

- Use the article a or an to indicate any non-specified member of a group or category.
- I think an animal is in the garage
- That man is a scoundrel.
- We are looking for an apartment.
- Use the article a or an to indicate one in number (as opposed to more than one).
- I own a cat and two dogs.
- Use the article a before a consonant sound, and use an before a vowel sound.
- a boy, an apple
- Sometimes an adjective comes between the article and noun: an unhappy boy, a red apple
- The plural form of a or an is some. Use some to indicate an unspecified, limited amount (but more than one).
- an apple, some apples

Rule #2 - Specific identity known

Use the definite article the with any noun (whether singular or plural, count or non-count) when the specific identity of the noun is known to the reader, as in the following situations:

- Use the article the when a particular noun has already been mentioned previously.
- I ate an apple yesterday. The apple was juicy and delicious.
- Use the article the when an adjective, phrase, or clause describing the noun clarifies or restricts its identity.
- The boy sitting next to me raised his hand.
- Thank you for the advice you gave me.
- Use the article the when the noun refers to something or someone that is unique.

- the theory of relativity
- the 2003 federal budget

Rule #3 - All things or things in general

Use no article with plural count nouns or any non-count nouns used to mean all or in general.

- Trees are beautiful in the fall. (All trees are beautiful in the fall.)
- He was asking for advice. (He was asking for advice in general.)
- I do not like coffee. (I do not like all coffee in general.)

Additional Information Regarding the Use of Articles

When indicating an unspecified, limited amount of a count or noncount noun, use some.

- My cousin was seeking some advice from a counselor (not advice in general or advice about everything, but a limited amount of advice).
- I would love some coffee right now (not coffee in general, but a limited amount of coffee).
- We might get rain tomorrow. Some rain would be good for the crops (a certain amount of rain, as opposed to rain in general).
- There are some drops of water on the table (a limited number, but more than one drop).

Common Non-count Nouns

Non-count nouns are those which usually cannot be counted.

Certain food and drink items: bacon, beef, bread, broccoli, butter, cabbage, candy, cauliflower, celery, cereal, cheese, chicken, chocolate, coffee, corn, cream, fish, flour, fruit, ice cream, lettuce, meat, milk, oil, pasta, rice, salt, spinach, sugar, tea, water, wine, yogurt

Certain non-food substances: air, cement, coal, dirt, gasoline, gold, paper, petroleum, plastic, rain, silver, snow, soap, steel, wood, wool

Most abstract nouns: advice, anger, beauty, confidence, courage, employment, fun, happiness, health, honesty, information, intelligence, knowledge, love, poverty, satisfaction, truth, wealth

Areas of study: history, math, biology, etc.

Sports: soccer, football, baseball, hockey, etc.

Languages: Chinese, Spanish, Russian, English, etc.

Other: clothing, equipment, furniture, homework, jewellery, luggage, lumber, machinery, mail, money, news, poetry, pollution, research, scenery, traffic, transportation, violence, weather, work

Geographical Names and Articles

Geographical names are confusing because some require the and some do not.

Use the with: united countries, large regions, deserts, peninsulas, oceans, seas, gulfs, canals, rivers, mountain ranges, groups of islands

- the Gobi Desert
- the United Arab Emirates
- the Sacramento River
- the Aleutians

Do not use the with: streets, parks, cities, states, counties, most countries, continents, bays, single lakes, single mountains, islands

- Japan
- Chico
- Mt. Everest
- San Francisco Bay

Examples of the Use of Articles

- I do not want a gun in my house (any gun).
- The gun is in his closet (implies there is a specific gun).
- I am afraid of guns (all guns in general).
- She sent me a postcard from Italy (an unspecific postcard - not a letter, not an e-mail).
- It's the postcard that I have in my office (one specific postcard).
- Getting postcards makes me want to travel (any postcard in general).
- I have a dog (one dog).
- The dog is very friendly (the dog that I have already mentioned).
- Dogs make great pets (dogs in general).
- Greta needs furniture in her apartment (furniture is a non-count noun).
- She is going to select the furniture that she needs (the specific furniture that she needs).
- She hopes to find some furniture this weekend (an unspecified, limited amount of furniture).
- We are going to see the Statue of Liberty this weekend (the only Statue of Liberty).

1.3 Grammar: Introduction to Parts of Speech

Introduction

Parts of speech are essential elements in our daily conversations and interactions. Every word we speak belongs to one of the eight categories of parts of speech, based on its role and function in a sentence.

Eight Types of Parts of Speech and Their Functions

- Noun
- Pronoun
- Adjective
- Verb
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction
- Interjection

1. Noun

A noun is a word that represents a person, place, or thing. This "thing" can include anything perceivable by the senses or even abstract concepts.

- Emily is a talented artist. (Here, "Emily" is a noun, representing a person.)
- Paris is a beautiful city. (Here, "Paris" is a noun, representing a place.)
- My cat's name is Whiskers. (Here, both "cat" and "Whiskers" are nouns, representing an animal.)

2. Pronoun

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun to avoid repetition and make sentences more fluid.

- Danish is in my class. He is very smart. ("He" replaces "Danish.")
- I enjoy reading, and this is my favorite book. ("I" and "my" replace the speaker's name.)
- It is a sunny day. ("It" is used to refer to the weather or the general situation.)

3. Adjective

An adjective describes or provides more information about a noun, highlighting its qualities.

- Liam is a brilliant student. ("Brilliant" describes Liam.)
- I don't like this movie. ("This" specifies which movie.)

4. Verb

A verb is a word that indicates an action or state. It tells us what someone or something does or what has happened to them.

- Ava is dancing. ("Dancing" is an action performed by Ava.)
- The plant wilted. ("Wilted" describes the state of the plant.)

5. Adverb

An adverb modifies a verb, adjective, or another adverb, providing more detail about how, when, where, or to what extent something happens.

- She quickly finished her homework. ("Quickly" modifies "finished.")
- They performed excellently in the competition. ("Excellently" modifies "performed.")
- He reads quite slowly. ("Quite" modifies "slowly.")

6. Preposition

A preposition is a word that connects a noun or pronoun to another word in the sentence, showing their relationship.

- The cat is on the roof.
- She walked through the park.
- They are arriving at noon.

7. Conjunction

A conjunction is a word that links words, phrases, or clauses.

- Cats and dogs are common pets. ("And" connects "cats" and "dogs.")
- She was tired but continued working. ("But" connects two contrasting ideas.)
- He wanted to go because it sounded fun. ("Because" introduces a reason.)

8. Interjection

An interjection is a word or phrase that expresses sudden emotion or reaction.

- Wow! That was amazing.
- Oh no! I forgot my keys.
- Congratulations! You did it.

Noun – Further Classification

Proper Noun: Refers to a specific person, place, or thing. Example: "Emily" in "Emily is a talented artist" is a proper noun.

Common Noun: Refers to a general class or type of person, place, or thing. Example: "artist" in "Emily is a talented artist" is a common noun.

Collective Noun: Refers to a group of people or things. Example: "team" in "The team is ready for the match."

Abstract Noun: Refers to qualities, actions, or states. Example: "bravery" in "Bravery is admired by all."

Countable and Uncountable Nouns: Some nouns can be counted (e.g., apples), while others cannot be counted (e.g., water, music).

Adjective – Further Categories

Descriptive Adjective: Mount Everest is the highest mountain.

Adjective of Quantity: She ate the entire cake.

Adjective of Number: There are seven continents.

Demonstrative Adjective: That is a lovely painting.

Interrogative Adjective: Which route should we take?

Verb – Categories

Transitive Verb: A transitive verb requires an object. Example: He threw the ball.

Intransitive Verb: An intransitive verb does not require an object. Example: The baby laughed.

UNIT 1 – QUICK REVISION

Sentence Structure

A sentence consists of at least a: **Subject + Predicate**

Five Main Components of a Sentence

- Subject
- Verb
- Object
- Complement
- Adjunct

Three Main Types of Sentences

- Simple Sentence – one independent clause
- Compound Sentence – two or more independent clauses joined by coordinating conjunctions
- Complex Sentence – one independent clause and one or more dependent clauses

FAN BOYS

- F – For
- A – And
- N – Nor
- B – But
- O – Or
- Y – Yet
- S – So

Articles

- A – before a consonant sound
- An – before a vowel sound
- The – for a specific or known noun

Eight Parts of Speech

- Noun
- Pronoun
- Adjective
- Verb
- Adverb
- Preposition
- Conjunction
- Interjection