

BASIC ENGLISH GRAMMAR

Lecture one



□ Sentence definition

Sentence define as a group of words put together to give a complete meaningfully expression. A sentences can be express a thought, statement, question, wish, command, suggestion, or idea

➤ Sentence order

The most common word order is **subject + verb + object**

For example:

The fox (subject) + eats (verb) + pancakes (object).

When writing a sentence, make sure the verb comes after the subject, and the object comes after the verb

- ❑ **Subject:** A person, animal, place, thing, or concept that does an action. Determine the subject in a sentence by asking the question “Who or what?”
 - I like spaghetti.
 - **He** reads many books.
- ❑ **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?”
 - I like apple.
 - He reads many books.
 - The movie is good. (The *be* verb is also sometimes referred to as a copula or a linking verb. It links the subject, in this case "the movie," to the complement or the predicate of the sentence, in this case, "good.")
- ❑ **Object:** 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?/For whom?”
 - I like *spaghetti*.
 - He reads *many books*.

Types of clauses

- **Independent clause:** An independent clause can stand alone as a sentence. It contains a subject and a verb and is a complete idea.
 - **I like apple.**
 - **He reads many books.**
- **Dependent clause:** 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.
 - **Although I like orange,...**
 - **Because he reads many books,...**

Simple Sentences

A simple sentence contains a subject and a verb, and it may also have an object and modifiers. However, it contains only one independent clause.

Here are a few examples:

- **She** wrote.
- **She** completed *her literature review*.
- **He** organized *his sources* by theme.

They studied *English grammar rules* for many hours.

English Sentence Structure

The following statements are true about sentences in English:

- A new sentence begins with a capital letter.
 - **He** obtained his degree.
- A sentence ends with punctuation (a period, a question mark, or an exclamation point).
 - He obtained his degree.
- A sentence contains a subject that is only given once.
 - ~~—Ahamed~~ he obtained his degree.
- A sentence contains a verb or a verb phrase.
 - He **obtained** his degree.
- A sentence follows Subject + Verb + Object word order.
 - **He** (subject) **obtained** (verb) **his degree** (object).
- A sentence must have a complete idea that stands alone. This is also called an independent clause.
 - **He obtained his degree.**

Compound-Complex Sentences

Sentence types can also be combined. A compound-complex sentence contains at least two independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.

- **She completed her research project, but she still needs to work on her methods section** *even though she finished her methods course last semester.*
- *Although he organized his sources by theme,* **he decided to arrange them chronologically, and he carefully followed the research rules for organization.**
- *With pizza and soda at hand,* **they studied English grammar rules for many hours, and they decided that writing in scientific research made sense** *because it was clear, concise, and objective.*
- Pay close attention to comma usage in complex-compound sentences so that the reader is easily able to follow the intended meaning.

Complex Sentences

A complex sentence contains at least one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

Dependent clauses can refer to the subject (who, which) the sequence/time (since, while), or the causal elements (because, if) of the independent clause.

If a sentence begins with a dependent clause, note the comma after this clause. If, on the other hand, the sentence begins with an independent clause, there is not a comma separating the two clauses.

Here are a few examples:

- *Although she completed her literature review, she still needed to work on her methods section.*
 - Note the comma in this sentence because it begins with a dependent clause.
- *Because he organized his sources by theme, it was easier for his readers to follow.*
 - Note the comma in this sentence because it begins with a dependent clause.
- **They studied English grammar rules for many hours** *as they were so interesting.*
 - Note that there is no comma in this sentence because it begins with an independent clause.
- Using some complex sentences in writing allows for more sentence variety.

Compound Sentences

A compound sentence contains at least two independent clauses. These two independent clauses can be combined with a comma and a coordinating conjunction or with a semicolon.

Here are a few examples:

- **She completed her literature review, and she created her reference list.**
- **He organized his sources by theme; then, he updated his reference list.**
- **They studied low rules for many hours, but they realized there was still much to learn.**