

SENTENCE PATTERNS

(PATTERN 1)

COURSE INSTRUCTOR: ETHAR N. JAMEEL

UNIVERSITY OF BASRA

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION FOR H. SCS.

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

- English sentences are arranged into nine patterns:

The verb	The pattern Number	The pattern components
Be	Pattern 1	N Be Aj
	Pattern 2	N Be Av
	Pattern 3	N ¹ Be N ¹
Linking verb	Pattern 4	N LV Aj
	Pattern 5	N ¹ LV N ¹
InV	Pattern 6	N InV
TrV	Pattern 7	N ¹ TrV N ²
	Pattern 8	N ¹ TrV N ² N ³
	Pattern 9	N ¹ TrV +.....

Pattern 1

PATTERN 1: (N BE AJ)

- ❑ In this pattern the verb is (be) = is, are, am, was, were, is being, will be, has been,....etc.
- ❑ The third position in Pattern (1) is occupied by adjectives like happy, small, interesting, blue, grateful, ...etc. or adjective phrases like very small, rather big, quite new, entirely dark, glad to hear,etc.

- My father was busy. →
- My sister's room is very nice. →
- Learning English might be difficult. →
- What you did yesterday was awful. →
- The weather has been hot and dry. →
- Be careful ! →

N	Be	Aj
My father	was	busy
My sister's room	is	Very nice
Learning English	might be	difficult
What you did yesterday	was	awful
The weather	Has been	Hot and dry
(You)	be	careful

Note:

- An adjective can also take the form of a prepositional phrase like, **in a bad mood** (irritable), **under the weather** (ill), **on cloud nine** (very happy), **over one's head** (incomprehensible),...etc So if one of these phrases come after the main verb (be) in a sentence, then this sentence belongs to pattern 1.
- Example: The teacher was **in a bad mood.** (irritable) pattern 1 (N be Aj)
- My uncle is **under the weather.** (ill) pattern 1 (N be Aj)
- I am **on cloud nine.** (very happy) pattern 1 (N be Aj)
- His explanation was **over my head.** (unclear) pattern 1 (N be Aj)