

Write AHEAD

SkillsBook

Grade 9



Write Ahead Skillsbook

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Basic Sentence Patterns 1

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The six basic sentence patterns are as follows:

S + AV	Subject + Action Verb
S + AV + DO	Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object
S + AV + IO + DO	Subject + Action Verb + Indirect Object + Direct Object
S + AV + DO + OC	Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object + Object Complement
S + LV + PN	Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Noun
S + LV + PA	Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Adjective

Directions

For each sentence pattern indicated below, write a sentence modeled after the sample provided. You may add adjectives and adverbs to your sentences. The first one has been done for you.

1. Subject + Action Verb:

The audience cheered.

The grocery cart rolled away.

2. Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object:

Allan passed the ball.

3. Subject + Action Verb + Indirect Object + Direct Object:

Allan passed Kobe the ball.

4. Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object + Object Complement:

The sportswriters named Brett most valuable player.

5. Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Noun:

The pitcher was a rookie.

6. Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Adjective:

Most rookies are inexperienced.

Basic Sentence Patterns 2

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Every sentence has a subject and a verb, and most sentences have other words that complete or describe the thought. The most common sentence patterns appear below.

S + AV	Subject + Action Verb
S + AV + DO	Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object
S + AV + IO + DO	Subject + Action Verb + Indirect Object + Direct Object
S + AV + DO + OC	Subject + Action Verb + Direct Object + Object Complement
S + LV + PN	Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Noun
S + LV + PA	Subject + Linking Verb + Predicate Adjective

Directions

Identify the pattern of each sentence by labeling the parts. Use the symbols above.

- S LV PN
1. Soccer is my favorite sport.
 2. Auto racing is becoming more popular.
 3. Mia kicked three goals.
 4. Randy handed Rob the ball.
 5. The tennis association named Serena the top player.
 6. A rugby ball resembles a football.
 7. Rugby replaced soccer at some schools.
 8. Soccer is still the most popular sport in the world.
 9. Many people call Michael Phelps the greatest swimmer ever.
 10. Snow skiing can be a very dangerous sport.
 11. Boxers sometimes suffer permanent brain damage in the ring.
 12. Only a few athletes make a living by playing sports.

Next Step: Write two sentences about a sport you enjoy. Use these patterns:
S + AV + DO and S + LV + PA.

Simple Subjects and Predicates

Proofreader's
Guide
526–527

The subject is the part of a sentence that does something or is talked about. The predicate is the part of a sentence that says something about the subject or tells what it does. Simple subjects and simple predicates do not include any of the words that modify or complete them.

Anna loves her new crayons. She has drawn a rainbow.

Do you remember your first box of crayons?

Directions

Draw one line under the simple subjects in the following sentences and two lines under the simple predicates. (Helping verbs are part of a simple predicate.)

1. Anna's new box of 100 crayons sits proudly on the kitchen table.
2. A package of new crayons is still a prized possession.
3. Two men, Edwin Binney and Harold Smith, saw a need for a new coloring tool.
4. Their crayons received a gold medal at the St. Louis World Exhibition in 1902.
5. They sold boxes of eight crayons.
6. Eight crayons cost five cents in 1903.
7. By 1949, children had 48 colors to choose from.
8. Coloring books can keep kids busy for hours.
9. Do adults find as much self-expression when they use crayons?
10. A red, green, and gold box of crayons remained a favorite Christmas gift for many years.

Next Step: Write two sentences about your own memories of crayons. Underline the simple subject in each sentence once and the simple predicate twice.

Uses of Nouns 1

The **subject noun** is the noun doing the action in a sentence.

The **Aztecs** created a fascinating society.

A **predicate noun** follows some form of the verb “be” (*is, am, are, was, were, be, being, been*) and renames the subject. One way to check for a predicate noun is to use the word “equal” or “equals” in place of the verb and see if it makes sense.

The **Aztecs** *were* a **nation** of Indians in ancient Mexico. (“Aztecs” *equal* “nation.”)

Directions

In each of the following sentences, circle the subject noun. If there is a predicate noun, underline it. (Do not underline predicate adjectives.)

1. The Aztecs were wanderers who originated in northern Mexico in the 1100s.
2. Originally, the tribe was the Mexica.
3. The south-central region of Mexico was their home as early as 1325.
4. The rivers were a major source of food for them.
5. Their agricultural methods used techniques that preserved the environment.
6. Through the years, the Aztecs adopted various aspects of other cultures.
7. By the 1400s, their society was powerful and sophisticated.
8. Part of their religion was a belief in the special place of humans in the universe.
9. The gods' happiness was the responsibility of the Aztec people.
10. Human sacrifices were the key to pleasing the gods, according to their beliefs.
11. The Aztecs became known for these sacrifices.

Next Step: Write several sentences about modern society. Use a predicate noun in at least one of your sentences.

Uses of Nouns 2

A noun can be a direct object, an indirect object, or the object of a preposition. In those cases, it is called an **object noun**.

- A **direct object** receives the action of a verb. It answers the question *whom?* or *what?*

Alesha asked the **zookeeper** if they had any armadillos on display.

(Alisha asked *whom?* The noun “zookeeper” is a direct object.)

- An **indirect object** answers *to whom?* or *to what?* (or *for whom?* or *for what?*) something is done. A sentence cannot have an indirect object without a direct object.

She then paid the ticket **seller** the admission fee to the large animal house.

(Alesha paid the admission fee *to whom?* The noun “seller” is an indirect object.)

- The **object of a preposition** is the noun in a prepositional phrase. It answers *whom?* or *what?* after the preposition.

The shell of an **armadillo** is really quite thin.

(The shell *of what?* The noun “armadillo” is the object of the preposition “of.”)

Directions

In the following sentences, label the underlined nouns either “DO” for direct object, “IO” for indirect object, or “OP” for object of a preposition.

1. The armadillo is usually found in the southwest United States.
OP
2. It is an animal with a leathery shell.
3. The armadillo eats insects and soft vegetation.
4. The zookeeper showed Alesha the armadillo’s strong claws.
5. The armadillo digs huge holes and finds grubs and insects in the ground.
6. To protect itself, the armadillo rolls its body into a ball.
7. The animal avoids cold weather.
8. It does not like even a few days of below-freezing temperatures.
9. The female bears four identical babies.
10. Armadillos have fascinated nature lovers for years.
11. At the zoo, we offered lettuce to the armadillo.
12. Its long, sticky tongue reached out to take it from our hands.

Noun Review

Proofreader's
Guide
533, 536

This activity reviews the types and uses of nouns.

Directions

In the sentences below, check the box that best describes the underlined noun: proper or common, abstract or concrete.

1. Henry David Thoreau wrote "Civil Disobedience" as a lecture he delivered in 1848. *Henry David Thoreau* is a singular noun that is also . . .
☐ proper ☐ common
2. He called for peaceful resistance to government laws. *Laws* is a plural common noun that is . . .
☐ abstract ☐ concrete
3. He thought that people should be ruled by what they believe is right. *People* is a plural count noun that is . . .
☐ abstract ☐ concrete
4. Thoreau went to jail because of his stand against slavery and government taxation. *Jail* is a singular concrete noun that is . . .
☐ proper ☐ common

Directions

In the sentences below, check the box that best describes the underlined noun: subject noun, object noun, or predicate noun.

5. This form of peaceful protest has been used many times since then. *Protest* is a singular abstract noun that is also . . .
☐ a subject noun ☐ an object noun ☐ a predicate noun
6. Gandhi used hunger strikes to force the end of violence in India. *Gandhi* is a proper concrete noun that is also . . .
☐ a subject noun ☐ an object noun ☐ a predicate noun
7. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was a crusader for equal rights. *Crusader* is a singular abstract noun that is also . . .
☒ a subject noun ☐ an object noun ☐ a predicate noun
8. During the Vietnam War, nonviolent antiwar demonstrators adopted the term "flower power" to represent their form of civil disobedience. *Term* is a singular abstract noun that is also . . .
☐ a subject noun ☐ an object noun ☐ a predicate noun