Basic Sentence Structure

Sentences in English have a very strict word order.

Basic sentences in English follow the Subject (S), Verb (V), Object (O) pattern: S-V-O (All of these can be **single words** or **multi-word phrases**). Not all sentences have **objects**.

**Practice distinguishing between these parts in the sentences below:**

For example: **The students** **wanted** **more pizza.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>Object</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A turtle is not a mammal.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Brown students can use the TLC.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The cafeteria has many tables and chairs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My family and I enjoy skiing and other winter sports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The number of students will increase.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The dog stole my homework.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tutoring and Learning Centre was closed.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Place an ‘X’ in the object-space if there is no object.**

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More information can be added to these simple sentences to tell the time or location of an event. These phrases can be added to the beginning or the end of a sentence.

Practice distinguishing between these parts of the sentence.

Label each part of the sentence as **Subject, Verb, Object, Place**, or **Time**.

**Example:**

At 5:00, most people leave their offices in the city.

- **time**
- **subject**
- **verb**
- **object**
- **place**

1. On Tuesday, the whole family ate dinner on the deck.

2. In the summer, I like to visit my family in Halifax.


4. For many years, the group of friends did not hear from Melissa.

5. The students didn’t understand the teacher’s directions that day.

Write sentences that correspond to the patterns given. Try to make them true sentences about your life, or something you are interested in. Use the examples above to help guide you.

1. **Subject** | **Verb** | **Object** | **Place** | **Time**

2. **Time** | **Subject** | **Verb** | **Place** | **Place**

3. **Place** | **Subject** | **Verb** | **Object** | **Time**

4. **Time** | **Subject** | **Verb** | **Object** | **Time**

5. **Time** | **Time** | **Subject** | **Verb** | **Object**