

Basic Sentence Elements

Subject: The subject is a noun or pronoun that performs the main action in the sentence.

I jogged to the park.

Compound Subject: When more than one subject performs the action.

John and Teresa jogged to the park.

Every sentence must have a subject unless it is a command, and the subject (You) is understood.

Close the door.

(Because this statement is a command, the subject is understood to be “you” – the person spoken to.)

Predicate: The main verb in the sentence is the predicate. It names the action of the sentence.

They live in the same house.

The helping verb in sentences creates verb tense (when the action took place)

**He is going to the store.
He has gone to the grocery store.
He will go to the store.**

Direct Object: A noun or pronoun that directly receives the action of a verb is called a direct object.

I gave some cake to Sara.

(“Cake” is the object given; therefore, it is the direct object of the action.)

Indirect Object: A noun or pronoun that states to whom (or to what) or for whom (or for what) something is done.

I gave Sara some cake.

(“Sara” receives the object “cake”; therefore, she is the indirect object of the action.)