

GRAMMAR: CHAPTER 2

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- Sentence construction in English involves organizing words into a coherent structure to convey meaning. This is done through the use of hierarchies and a central nucleus.
- **Hierarchies:**
- At the most basic level, sentences consist of words. These words are grouped into different categories based on their function in the sentence. The hierarchy typically looks like this:
- **Words:** These are the smallest units of meaning. They can be nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, etc.
- **Phrases:** These are groups of words that function as a single unit within a sentence. They can be noun phrases, verb phrases, prepositional phrases, etc. For example, "the big brown dog" is a noun phrase.

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- **Clauses:** These are groups of words that contain a subject and a predicate (verb). They can be independent (can stand alone as a sentence) or dependent (cannot stand alone). For example, "He runs fast" is an independent clause, while "because he runs fast" is a dependent clause.
- **Sentences:** These are complete units of thought that can stand alone and express a complete idea.

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- Specifiers:-

Category	Typical function	Examples
Articles (Art)	Specifier of N	The, a, this, those
Qualifier (Qual)	Specifier of V	Never, perhaps, often, always
Degree word (Deg)	Specifier of A or P	Very, quite, more, almost

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- Complements:-
- Complement options for verbs:-

Complement options	Sample heads	Example
	vanish, arrive, die	The rabbit vanished.
NP	devour, cut, prove	The professor proved [the theorem].
AP	be, become	The man became [very angry].
PP _{for}	dash, talk, refer	The dog dashed [for the door].
NP NP	spare, hand, give	We handed [the man] [a map].
NP PP _{to}	hand, give, send	He gave [a diploma] [to the student].
NP PP _{for}	buy, cook, reserve	We bought [a hat] [for Andy].
NP PP (location)	put, place, stand	We placed [the dish] [on the table].
PP _{to} PP _{about}	talk, speak	I talked [to the doctor] [about Andy]
NP PP _{for} PP _{with}	open, fix	We opened [the door] [for Andy] [with a crowbar]

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- Complement options for nouns:-

Complement options	Sample heads	Example
	Car, boy, electricity,	The car
PP _{of}	Memory, failure, death	The memory [of a friend]
PP _{of} PP _{to}	Presentation, description, donation	The presentation [of a medal] [to the winner]
PP _{with} PP _{about}	Argument, discussion, conversation	An argument [with Andy] [about politics]

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- Complement options for adjectives:-

Complement options	Sample heads	Example
	tall, green, smart	Very tall
PP _{about}	curious, glad, angry	Curious [about china]
PP _{to}	apparent, obvious	Obvious [to the student]
PP _{of}	fond, full, tired	Fond [of chocolate]

- Complement options for preposition:-

Complement options	Sample heads	Example
	near, away, down	He got down
NP	in, on, by, near	In [the house]
PP	down, up, out	Down [into the cellar]

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- **Nucleus:**
- Within a sentence, there is usually a central nucleus that carries the main message or idea. This is often the main clause in a complex sentence or the main phrase in a simpler one.
- For example, in the sentence "The cat (subject) chased (verb) the mouse (object)", the nucleus is "chased", as it conveys the main action of the sentence.
- In a more complex sentence like "Although it was raining, he went for a run", the nucleus of the sentence is "he went for a run". The subordinate clause "Although it was raining" provides additional information but is not the main message.

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- **Important Abbreviations:-**

The Full Term	Abbreviation	The Full Term	Abbreviation
Noun	N	Nucleus	Nuc
Verb	V	Sentence Modifier	SM
Adjectives	Adj	Auxiliary	Aux
Adverbs	Adv	Phrase	P
Prepositions	P	Main Verb	MV
Sentence	S	Plural	PL

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- All rules in transformational grammar are numbered **p1, p2, p3...etc.**
- The ***p*** stands for phrase structure.
- P1: $S \rightarrow (SM) \text{ Nuc}$
- P2: $\text{Nuc} \rightarrow \text{NP} + \text{VP}$
- P3: $\text{NP} \rightarrow (\text{Det}) \text{ N (PL)}$

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