

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: $\text{Nuc} \rightarrow \text{NP} + \text{VP}$
- P7: $\text{NP} \rightarrow (\text{Det}) \text{ N (PL)}$

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- **Examples on P1 and P2:**

- Certainly, I know the answer.
- The fireman fought the fire.
- Apparently, Tom is sick.
- Unfortunately, the fish died.

- **Examples on P7:**

- Those cars look expensive.
- The ducks are noisy.
- Certainly, those sheep run fast.

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- P3:VP → Aux+MV (Manner) (Place) (Time) (Reason)
- **Examples:**
 - Ali drove carefully in town today because of the ice.
 - She sang beautifully because of her father.
 - He leaves tomorrow because of work.

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- P4: Aux → Tense

- P5: Tense → $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Past} \\ \text{Present} \end{array} \right\}$

- **Examples:-**

- The woman sings beautifully. (present+ sing)
- They were at home (past+are)

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- P6:
$$MV \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{be } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{NP} \\ \text{place} \end{array} \right\} \\ \text{V } (\text{NP}) \end{array} \right\}$$

- This book is a text.
- This book is in the room.
- This book is great.
- This book received a discount.

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- P8: AP → (intens) Adj
- **Examples:**
 - Very happy
 - Extremely hot
 - Incredibly good
- In syntax, a "node" refers to a point in a tree structure that represents a linguistic unit, such as a word, a phrase, or a clause.

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- **Let us practice:-**

- She ran rapidly.
- John is an artist.
- John was devastated.
- Ahmad is happy.

- **Homework:-**

Draw trees of the following sentences:

1. The boy ate a hamburger greedily.
2. Bobby is quite intelligent.
3. Of course, the car is in the garage.
4. Naturally those ducks sat there for an hour.
5. No, those women planted the garden yesterday.