

2 SIMPLE SENTENCE S+V_i(+A)

After studying through this chapter, you are expected to be able to write simple sentences with Pattern S+V_i(+A)

Some verbs cannot be followed by either objects or complements. They are called intransitive verbs. Sometimes a verb of this type can function as a predicate on its own. Study the following sentences.

No	Subject	Predicate
1	Birds	fly.
2	Some birds	migrate in winter.
3	My brother	snores in his sleep.
4	They	live modestly but happily in a small town.
5	Water	generally freezes at 0°C.
6	The children	play in the street in the afternoon.
7	Some animals	hibernate for several months in the winter.
8	The team	will leave early in the morning tomorrow.

Basically, an intransitive verb can function as a predicate on its own, such as in Sentence 1. However, most of the time we will use adverbs to provide more information. In Sentence 2 the adverb is “in winter,” in Sentence 3 the adverb is “in his sleep,” in Sentence 4 “modestly but happily in a small town,” in Sentence 5 “generally,” and “at 0°C,” in Sentence 6 “in the street in the afternoon,” in Sentence 7 “for several months in the winter,” and in Sentence 8 “early in the morning tomorrow.” Actually an adverb is not an essential component in the structure of a predicate of a sentence. In other words, without adverbs, an intransitive verb can function fully as a predicate, such as in Sentence 1. Now, you can try to remove the adverbs from Sentences 2 to 8.

Activity 2.1

Identify and underline the components of each sentence below: the subject, the verb, and the adverb(s)!

1. My aunt Lucy works in a large office.
2. The office opens at 9 o'clock in the morning.
3. My aunt Lucy often gets there late.
4. She came late yesterday.
5. She arrived at the office at 10 o'clock.
6. My brother Bill does not work in an office.
7. He works in a large shoe factory.
8. He never comes late.
9. He always arrives at the factory early.

Adverbs are of several types, such as adverbs of place, of frequency, of time, and of manner. Examples of adverbs of place are *here, there, in the classroom, at home*; examples of adverbs of frequency are *always, never, rarely, often, sometimes*; examples of adverbs of time are *everyday, tomorrow, yesterday, every Sunday, now, tonight, last month*, and examples of adverbs of manner are *carefully, early, quickly, loudly, happily*. Study the following sentences carefully. What can you learn from these sentences?

No	Subject	Predicate
9	They	live.
10	They	live in this house.
11	They	live in this house happily.
12	They	have been living in this house happily for a year.
13	They	have seldom lived in any house peacefully since the fire.
14	We	walked.
15	We	walked to school.
16	We	walked to school cheerfully.
17	We	walked to school cheerfully yesterday morning.
18	We	seldom walked to school cheerfully last year.
19	She	will work.
20	She	will work in the hospital.
21	She	will work in the hospital voluntarily.
22	She	will work in the hospital voluntarily all her life.
23	She	will always work in the hospital voluntarily all her life.

It should be clear from the sentences above that in general adverb of place comes right after the verb, followed by adverb of manner and adverb of time, while adverb of frequency often occurs between the subject and the verb, or after the first verb in a verb phrase.

Activity 2.2

Expand each sentence below by providing an adverb of place.

1. My father goes _____.
2. My uncle works _____.
3. The teacher arrives _____.
4. My friends come _____.
5. My house stands _____.
6. Some birds fly _____.
7. My brother jumped _____.
8. My sister fell _____.
9. My mother sat _____.

Activity 2.3

Expand each sentence below by providing an adverb of manner.

1. My father cooks _____.
2. My uncle sings _____.
3. The teacher speaks _____.
4. My friends run _____.
5. My house stands _____.
6. Some birds live _____.
7. My brother slept _____.
8. My sister studied _____.
9. My mother walked home _____.

Activity 2.4

Expand each sentence below by providing an adverb of time.

1. My father jogs _____.
2. My uncle swims _____.
3. The teacher comes _____.
4. My friends will meet _____.
5. My girl friend smiles _____.
6. The man died _____.
7. My brother cried _____.
8. My sister danced _____.
9. My mother rested _____.

Activity 2.5

Expand each sentence below by providing an adverb of frequency.

1. My father laughs out loud.
2. My uncle sleeps in the afternoon.
3. The teacher comes to school late.
4. My friends came to my house last year.
5. My girlfriend swims in the swimming pool.
6. Molly has sung in public houses.
7. My brother gets up early in the morning.

- 8. My sister works late into the night.
- 9. My mother sits in the living room in the evening.

Activity 2.6

Expand each sentence below with as many adverbs as you can think of.

- 1. My father came.
- 2. My uncle went.
- 3. The teacher talked.
- 4. My friends have been sitting.
- 5. My boyfriend will arrive.
- 6. My girlfriend will be dancing.
- 7. My brother was walking.
- 8. My sister cried.
- 9. My mother stood.

Activity 2.7

Construct sentences of your own with Pattern S+Vi(+A).

1 _____

2 _____

3 _____

4 _____

5 _____

6 _____

7 _____

8 _____

9 _____