

Sentence Fun

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Types of Sentences

Sentence Definition: Thought expressed in words. All sentences will have a subject (noun) and a predicate (verb).

Subject Definition: The subject of a sentence is what something is being talked about.

Declarative Sentence Definition: A sentence that says something. It always receives a period. Example: Ducks eat greedily. The sun shone brightly.

Interrogatory Sentence Definition: Asks a question. It receives an interrogation point or question mark (?). Example: What time is it? When do we eat?

Imperative Sentence Definition: A sentence that gives a command or an entreaty. It always receives a period. The subject is understood to be (you) or (thou). Example: Clean your room. Do the dishes. Come here.

Exclamatory Sentence Definition: A sentence that uses an exclamation point (!)
Example: Welcome home ! You have been missed !

(Note: Flashcards for the above terms are at the very end.)

Teaching Types of Sentences

Goal: To identify the 4 types of sentences easily ... declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory

First, explain there are four (4) different types of sentences that you will conquer one at a time. We took a sentence type a week. At the end of the second week (Friday), I typed up a series of sentences mixing up the Declarative and Interrogatory sentences. Then, I handed the child the paper. My daughter would silently read the sentences and did the appropriate acting out (as described below). By the end of the third week, I mixed up Declarative, Interrogatory, and Imperative sentences and typed them up handing them to my daughter. Again, my daughter would silently read the sentences and did the appropriate acting out (as described below). The 4th and final week, I mixed up Declarative, Interrogatory, Imperative and Exclamatory sentences. Again, my daughter would silently read the sentences and did the appropriate acting out (as described below). I taught this process in kindergarten and my children NEVER forgot it! In fact, my children taught all the neighborhood children the Types of Sentences Game!

Week #1: Declarative

In a southern belle voice accompanied with appropriate mannerisms (e.g., female = fluttering eye lashes, etc., male = swaggering, etc.). The student will say, "Why I do declare ..." and then give an example of a declarative sentence. Go through readers, books that are currently being read for fun, etc. to find declarative sentences. Every time someone comes across a declarative sentence, they have to say in a southern belle voice with the accompanying mannerisms, "Why I do declare ... ", say the sentence and (still in a southern belle voice/mannerisms) say it was a declarative sentence. If they missed any part of this process, it doesn't count & it now becomes a race to see who can do this process first. For example, "This is a declarative sentence, The day was bright and shiny. A declarative sentence." If the child fails to do the mannerisms or voice (even if the child has correctly identified the type of sentence), it does not count.

Declarative Sentence Practice:

Here are some sentences to get you started.

The fire burns.
The child recites.
Our trees grow.
The river flowed.
The old horse limps.
One man came.
Some things burn.
My bat broke.
Grass is green.

The little plant blooms.
The dog barks.
Some birds fly.
The little child rests.
The pail fell.
The ball rolled.
The little boy ran.
My doll is pretty.
Cats chase rats.

Week #2: Interrogatory

Please remember that many grew up with a lot of WWII movies where Nazi's were interrogating prisoners to find out information. Ja! With this in mind, again search or come up with our own sentences. (Realize, of course, that you can race each other to come up with sentences!). The Interrogatory sentences, in order to count, have to be done in a German accent, a click of the heels, in a very stern voice German accent saying, "Zis ist an interrogatory sentence (I hope this does not offend anyone --- again, many grew up with WWII movies). For example, "Zis ist an interrogatory sentence (heels clicking), Vhen vill ve eat lunch? This ist an interrogatory sentence." (Translation: When will we eat lunch?) Again, if your child(ren) missed any part of this process, it doesn't count and it now becomes a race to see who can do this process first.

Interrogatory Sentence Practice:

Who discovered America?
Can Suzanne read?
May I have a snack?
Do you like to learn?
Shall we go play?

When is lunch?
Did the boat sink?
When will we get there?
Do you like stories?
Is it cloudy outside?

Week #2 Friday: Mixing Declarative and Interrogatory Sentences. Remember: accents and gestures must be correct or it does not count even if the sentence is identified correctly. After all, mom and dad must have fun too !

The day was sunny.
What time is it?
Dolley Madison liked ice cream.
When is vacation?
I do not like to shop.
What do you like to do?
Watermelon can be messy.
Where is the soap?
I like to dust.

Who was here?
Patrick Henry is a hero.
What are we having for lunch?
I like amusement parks.
Where is my truck?
I like strawberries.
Where is the towel?
My room is a mess.
When will you dust?

Week #3: Imperative

For this type of delightful sentence, explain that kings and queens used imperative sentences (ok, so this might be stretching, but it works). Our family purchased cheap tiara-type crowns around Reformation Day (aka halloween). Whenever a child ran across an imperative sentence in their reading, they had to quickly: put on the crown, put the left hand in a fist on their waist, point with their right finger, look down their nose, stand on the kitchen chair and say the sentence in an imperious voice. For example, "This is an imperative sentence, Clean your room. This is an imperative sentence." If any one of these things were missing, it did not count and the race was on.

Imperative Sentence Practice:

*** Remember, (you) or (thou) is the understood subject.

(You) Stand still.	(You) Come here.
(You) Wash the dishes.	(You) Bring your book.
(You) Ring the bell.	(You) Raise the flag.
(You) Rub your tummy and pat your head.	
(You) Stomp your feet and clap.	(You) Shout hurrah.
(You) Wink your eye and wave.	(You) Flutter your eyelashes.

Week #3 Friday: Mixing Declarative, Interrogatory and Imperative Sentences. Remember: accents and gestures must be correct or it does not count even if the sentence is identified correctly. After all, mom and dad must have fun too!

Note: You may want your scholar(s) to act out the imperatiave sentences.

It is warm today.	When will it snow?
(You) Sit down.	Where are my crayons?
The vase is pretty.	The sky is blue.
(You) Jump five times while singing "Yankee Doodle Dandy."	
Why are you laughing?	Is your room clean?
Grammar is fun.	History is filled with good stories.
Nature walks are interesting.	(You) Hug your mother.
(You) Bow to all in the room.	I like to giggle.
(You) Hop on one foot and recite "Humpty Dumpty."	

Week #4: Exclamatory

Explain to your children what silent movies were like (i.e., over dramatic, over done sign language, etc.). You may even want them to watch the film *Singing in the Rain* with Gene Kelly, Donald O'Connor, and Debbie Reynolds so they may gain an understanding of the work involved in changing from silent movies to talkies. This film does a brilliant job at illustrating the difficulties as well as the changes in acting styles. The silent movies tended to utilize a lot of gestures and over emphasized body posturing. (Actually, I used *Singing in the Rain* to introduce two new vocabulary words -- histrionics and melodramatic.) Have your children over emphasize gestures of joy, fear, excitement, anger, etc., but add in an appropriate voice --- whatever the sentence called for. For example, "This is an exclamatory sentence, Alas ! and Alack ! I must clean the house! This is an exclamatory sentence. (Note: For sentences like this, my children would "faint" on the couch.)

Sentence Fun

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Exercise 1

Verbally, form sentences by selecting one word from each of the three columns.

All	horse	wade .
Some	pitcher	ran .
This	birds	broke .
My	people	quack.
The	fire	rolled .
A	ducks	cough .
Our	pencil	burns .
Your	book	trembled .
The	sleigh	fell .

Exercise 2

Underline the **verb** (*predicate*) two times in green and the **noun** (*subject*) one time in orange.

Monkeys chatter.	Eels wriggle.	Rain falls.
Students learn.	Paper rips.	Volconoes belch.
Wood decays.	Iron rusts.	Pitchers break.
Girls read.	Dogs bark.	Boats tip.
Sheep bleat.	Horses neigh.	Hens cackle.

Exercise 3

Verbally, form sentences by selecting one word from each of the three columns.

Horses	nibble	greedily .
School	eat	loud .
Cats	cried	easily .
Mice	can	play .
Snow	roar	yesterday .
Lions	catch	cheese .
Glass	sings	school .
John	fell	grain .
Gloria	dismissed	beautifully .
Annie	breaks	metals .
Arthur	contracts	rats .
Cold	teaches	well .

Exercise 4

Underline the **verb** (*predicate*) two times in green and the **noun** (*subject*) one time in orange.

The fire burns.	The class recites.	Our trees grow.
The river flowed.	Several pupils left.	Some men fought.
The horse limped.	One man came.	Good children obey.
The plant blooms.	The dog howls.	Some birds swim.
The child rests.	My ink spilled.	The pail fell.
The ball rolled.	My bat broke.	The girl ran.

Exercise 5

Verbally, form sentences by selecting one word from each of the four columns.

The	cousin	breaks	well .
Some	cat	dropped	in .
Six	girls	came	harshly .
Thus	mice	came	milk .
Your	glass	laps	green .
My	boys	ate	today .
The	book	are	down .
That	trees	sing	rapidly .
His	man	spoke	easily .

Exercise 4

Underline the **verb** (*predicate*) two times in green and the **noun** (*subject*) one time in orange.

Always do your **verb** (*predicate*) first !!!!

Now we will diagram! With your green color pencil, write your **verb** (*predicate*) on the right side. With your orange color pencil, write your **noun** (*subject*) on the left side.

Leaves rustle.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
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Breezes blow.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Ravens croak.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Roses fade.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Plants droop.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Buds burst.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Kittens spring.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Cattle graze.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Wasps sting.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Crows caw.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Hearts beat.

noun (<i>subject</i>)	verb (<i>predicate</i>)
--------------------------------	----------------------------------

Flashcards

Cut on solid lines and fold on the dotted lines.

Front

Back

Sentence Definition

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Thought expressed in words. All sentences will have a subject (noun) and a predicate (verb). All start with a capital and have an end mark.

Subject Definition

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The subject (noun) of a sentence is what is being talked about.

Declarative Sentence Definition

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A sentence that says something. It always receives a period.

Ex: Ducks eat greedily. The sun shone brightly.

Interrogatory Sentence Definition

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Sentence that asks a question. It receives an interrogation point or question mark (?)

Ex: What time is it? When do we eat?

Flashcards

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Imperative Sentence Definition

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A sentence that gives a command or an entreaty. It always receives a period. The subject is understood to be (you) or (thou).

Ex: (You) Clean the room. (You) Do the dishes. (You) Come here.

Exclamatory Sentence Definition

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A sentence that uses an exclamation point (!)

Ex: Welcome home ! You have been missed !