

Sentence Writing: From Simple to Complex

ILC
Workshop 2



What is a sentence?

Subject

Verb

Object

It starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop.

It has a complete idea.

Besides just being a single noun,

A SUBJECT can...



be a compound noun A huge natural disaster / Most university students

be a gerund phrase Starting a new career / Being unable to concentrate

have a prepositional phrase Countries with high taxes / Children in poor schools / Wages below the minimum level

have a relative clause Workers who join unions / Animals that live in the Arctic

be a noun clause The fact that life moves fast / What we will do in the future

Verb

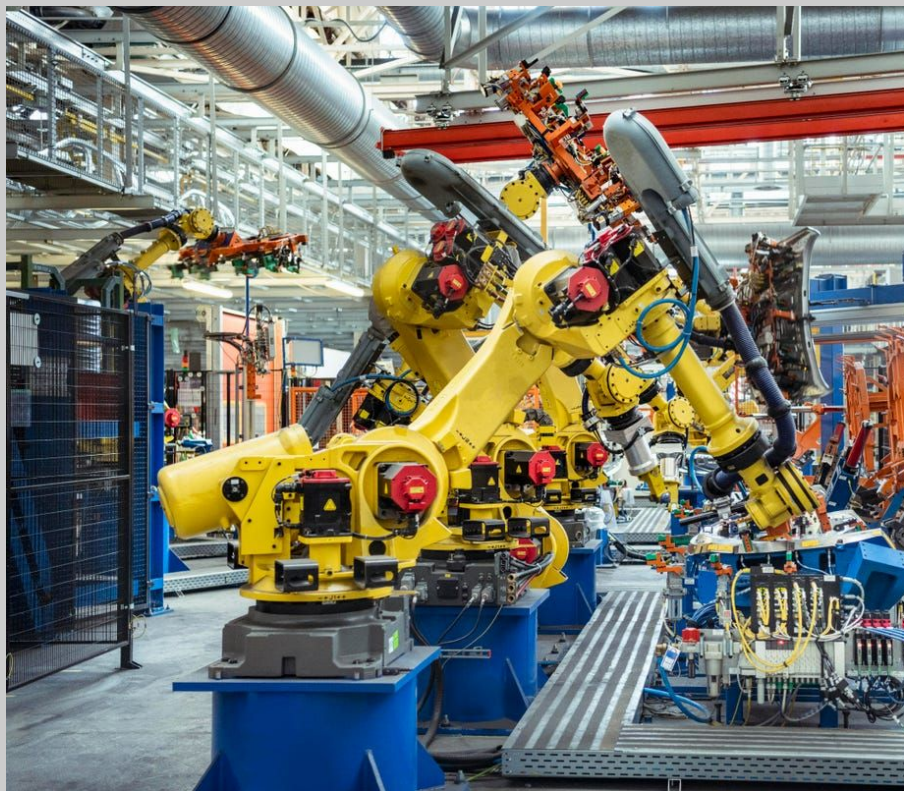
Object



Write a subject with a relative clause or a prepositional phrase.

Don't describe the picture; think about the THEME or TOPIC the picture shows.





Don't describe the picture; think about the **THEME** or **TOPIC** the picture shows.

Write a **subject** with a **compound noun**, a **gerund phrase**, or a **noun clause**.



Subject

A VERB can...

Object

be any tense

For essay writing, you should be able to use present simple, present continuous, present perfect, future forms, and simple past.

be made negative

Some students do not focus enough / Some are not diligent.

have a modal

The most common ones you will use for essay writing are have to, must, should, can, could, would, and will (and their negative forms).

be combined

Many verbs naturally join with others (gerund/infinitive): avoid going / agree to help or are phrasal verbs: lead to / take care of

be passive

Some common essay phrases use passive: It is known that... / Politicians are considered to be ... / Children are interested in ...

Subject

Verb

An OBJECT can...

have all the same forms as a subject

be an adjective*

**It is not 'technically' an object;
this is a simplified understanding.*

not be used

The problems that arise from climate change are
difficult to solve.

A wide variety of climate change effects can happen.



Use the subjects
you wrote before
and complete the
sentences with
verbs & objects.



● Various
tenses

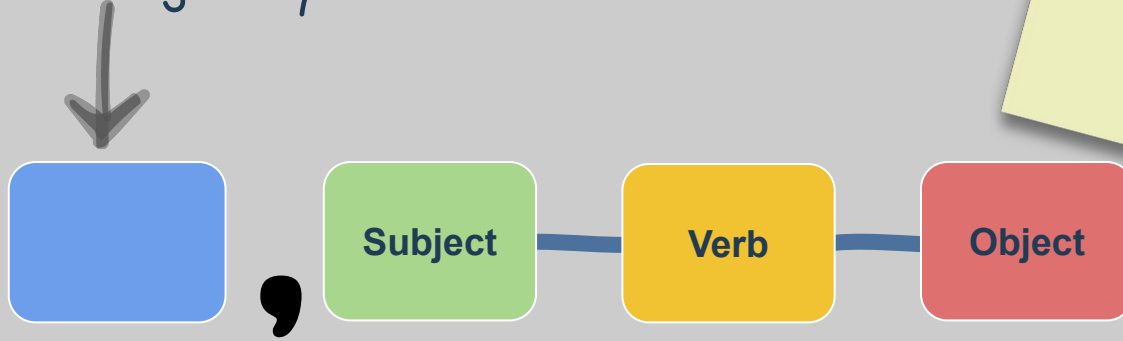
● Negatives

● Modals

● Combined
(Gerund/Infinitive
or Phrasal Verbs)

● Passive

1. You can put a word or phrase at the start of the sentence separated from the subject by a comma.



What else can be done with a sentence?

A linking phrase *However, Moreover, For example, Firstly,*

A time clause *After the war ends, Until people get smarter, While studying,*

An adverb *Unfortunately, Recently, Surprisingly, Often,*

2. You can connect it to another sentence with a FANBOYS word. The commonly used ones are **because***, **and**, **but**, **or**, and **so**.

**'because' is not 'technically' a FANBOYS word, but it is used the same way. It is the same as the FANBOYS 'for'.*

What else can be done with a sentence?

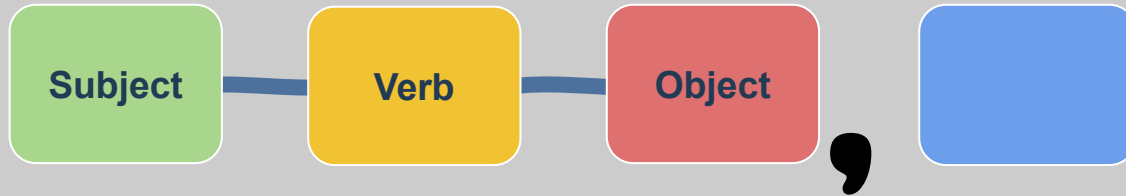


Learning a language resembles learning a sport, because both require regular practice.

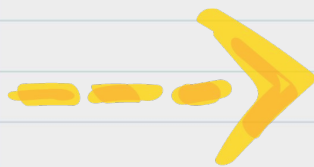
When studying abroad, students learn many life skills, so they become more independent.

3. Add a relative clause (comment clause) that refers to the whole sentence

What else can be done with a sentence?



There are many bad effects of smoking, which most smokers already know.
, which most smokers already know.



Yes, there are other sentence types, like:

- Conditionals (if)
- Double comparatives (the more, the better)
- Sentences with more than one object (give someone something / make someone do something)

These types can be practiced separately and included in your writing when you feel comfortable with them.



Tips for studying for a writing exam:

- Practice the forms needed for the essay type (eg. cause/effect language)
- Practice building longer sentences using this 'building block' method.
- Google Translate can help you practice if you use it in the right way (let's see...)



How to use Google Translate EFFECTIVELY to help you improve your writing.

- WRITE IN ENGLISH.
- Put your sentence into Google Translate to see the Turkish version.
- If it is not logical, think about how to rewrite your English sentence to improve it.
- Do not translate Turkish to English unless you are really stuck.

With a partner, write some sentences about the topics shown by the photos in this document. →

Think about the pictures in terms of what essay topics they might relate to.

