

ENGLISH SENTENCE STRUCTURE AND WORD CHOICE

As free form editor of English sentence structure and word choice, we'd like to help you correct and improve your writing.

The basic structure of an English sentence is **SUBJECT + VERB**.

There are three exceptions to that general rule:

- (1) In the imperative (祈使句) – Don't walk! (the subject is always 'you' and therefore the subject is omitted. 祈使句祈使句)
- (2) In the cleft sentences, we usually used an auxiliary verb before the subject. (The main verb comes after the subject.) **EXAMPLE:** Consider the sentence: I am going to bed.
(3) In poetry, we have a 'license' to change standard word order.

There are (many) different variations of the basic subject + verb pattern of sentence:

S + V

Example: I understand. They left Shanghai.

S + V + the subject

Example: I love you. She studied the letter. They go to the bank.

S + V + DO + DO's (Indirect object, direct object)

Example: I'm telling you a story. We bought her flowers. (How you a story please)

S + S.V. (Modifying verb) + PPA (prepositional phrase)

Example: I am curious. He's surprised. She put my flower.

S + S.V. + PPA (prepositional adjective)

Example: She asked, How does book? Did I tell you?

S + S.V. + PREP (prepositional) + CP

Example: They are happy because it's better than last time.

Write a sentence of your own for each of the above patterns. For the alternative, then, change each prepositional later again.

S + V **S + V + O** **S + V + DO + DO's** **S + S.V + PPA** **S + S.V + PPA + adj** **S + S.V + PPA + O**