



The fourth word in the sentence, *there*, is an expletive. It has a function (to announce that the subject will follow the verb) but no meaning.. Two linking verbs, *seemed* and *appear*, are followed by infinitive phrases used as predicate adjectives. Two additional infinitive phrases constitute the compound object of the preposition *about*. *Alas* is an interjection. The x represents an unexpressed coordinating conjunction linking two independent clauses.