

# The 25 Rules of Grammar (that you **MUST** learn!)

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English 7

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- Take notes in your grammar spiral/comp book
- Step #1
  - Kinds of Sentences

*Your Paper should look like:*

(Date) 01/07/2015

(Title) Rule #1: Kinds of Sentences

# Rule #1: Kinds of Sentences

- There are 4 kinds of sentences.
  - Declarative.
  - Interrogative?
  - Imperative.
  - Exclamatory!
- Each kind **REQUIRES** a **SPECIFIC** ending punctuation.

# Declarative Sentence

- A statement
- Ends with a period (.)
- To remember: it **DECLARES** something.
- Example:
  - Many kinds of penguins are found in Antarctica.

# Interrogative Sentence

- Asks a question
- Ends with a question mark (?)
- Remember it: Interrogation/Interrogating (CSI-style)
- Example:
  - Do all penguins live on that icy continent?

# Imperative Sentence

- Commands someone to do something
- Ends with a period (.)
- CAN end with an exclamation mark (!)
- Remember it: It's imPARENTive to do it.
- Example:
  - Sit down here and listen to me.
  - Stop that!

# Exclamatory Sentence

- Shows strong feeling
- Ends with an exclamation mark (!)
- Remember it: She EXCLAIMED!
- Example:
  - What a big surprise!

# Rule #2: Subjects and Predicates

- Every complete sentence has a subject and a predicate.



# Subject

- Names the person, place, or thing that the sentence is about (noun)
- Complete and Simple Subjects
  - Complete subject: contains all the words that tell who or what the sentence is about.
  - Simple subject: is the main noun or pronoun in the subject.

# Example

Simple Subject



Our crazy dog howled at the wind.

Complete Subject

# Predicate

- Tells what the subject is or does
- Complete and Simple Predicate
  - Complete Predicate: contains all the words that tell what the subject is or does.
  - Simple predicate: is the verb of the sentence.

# Example

Simple Predicate



Eric and Marshall raced down the street.

Complete Predicate

# Rule #3: Compound Sentences

- A compound sentence is made by putting together two or more simple sentences containing related information.
- The Parts are USUALLY JOINED by a conjunction such as **and, or, or but\***
- A comma is placed before the conjunction.

**\*You can replace the comma and the conjunction with a semicolon.**

# Simple->Compound Sentence

## Examples:

- Simple:

It began to rain.

Our field trip was canceled.

- Compound:

It began to rain, **and** our field trip was canceled.

\*It began to rain; our field trip was canceled.

# More Examples:

- Simple Sentences:

I have been studying the spelling words every night.

I expect to get a good grade on the test Friday.

- Compound Sentence:

I have been studying the spelling words every night, **and** I expect to get a good grade on the test Friday.

# Rule # 6: Verbs

- A **verb** is *a word in the predicate* that tells **physical or mental action** or a **state of being**.
- 3 types of VERBS:
  - **Action**
  - State of Being:
    - **Helping**
    - **Linking**



# Action Verbs (Basic Verb)

- Tell what the subject is doing.
  - *Examples:*
    - We played until it was dark.
    - Everyone laughed at the funny movie.

# “State of Being” Verbs

- **State of Being** Verbs can be EITHER:
  - a **Helping** Verb, OR
  - a **Linking** Verb

# Helping Verbs

- Come before the main verb.
- Help state the action or show the time.
- *Examples:*

– Arnold will paint the door tomorrow.

– He has been painting the frame today.

Helping Verb

Action verb that is “helped.”

# Helping and Main Verbs

- -A helping verb can be separated from the main verb.
- *Example: I am reading a great book!*
- It works to say: “I am a great book!”
- It does NOT work to say: “I reading a great book!”

# Linking Verbs

- Linking verbs link a subject to a noun or an adjective that names or describes it.
- *Examples:*
  - Their dog is a Saint Bernard.
  - The buttered popcorn will be delicious.

# Action and Linking Verbs

- -A linking verb connects the subject to a word or word group that identifies or describes the subject.
- *Example: Joe was calm at the seashore.*
- This implies that “Joe” FELT “calm” while he was at the seashore.
- The Joe “state of being” calm.

# Commonly Used Helping Verbs

- Am, is, are, was, were, be, being, have, having, has, had, do, does, did, can, could, may, might, must, ought, shall, should, will, would

# Commonly Used Linking Verbs

- Be, being, am, is, are, was, were, shall be, will be, Has been, have been, had been, shall have been, Will have been, can be, may be, might be, must be, Should be, would be, could be, should have been, could have been



# More Verb “Rules”

- The verb in a sentence **MUST AGREE** in **NUMBER** with the **SUBJECT**.
  - If the subject is singular, the verb must be singular.
    - *Example: Iced Lemonade is refreshing on a hot day.*
  - If the subject is plural, the verb must be plural.
    - *Example: Apple pies are delicious with vanilla ice cream.*

# Rule #7

- The tense of a verb tells when an action occurs-present, past, or future.

# Rule #7 Cont...

- Present: the action is happening now.
  - Mieko **is practicing** the piano.
- Past: the action already happened.
  - She **played** for her teacher yesterday.
- Future: the action is going to happen.
  - She **will give** a concert when she learns three more pieces.

# Rule # 8

- Endings are added to verbs to change the tense.
- If the verb conjugation (change) does NOT follow one of the regular ending rules, the verb conjugation is “irregular.”

# Rule # 8 cont...

List of “Irregular” Verbs:

Eat, ate, give, gave, write, wrote, sing, sang,  
bring, brought, know, knew, buy, bought, say,  
said

# Rule # 8 Cont...

## Present tense conjugations:

- Add “s” to most verbs
  - plays
- Add “ing” and use a present tense helping verb
  - Is playing
- Verbs ending in s, ch, sh, x, or z-add “es”
  - watches
- Verbs ending in y-change the “y” to “i” and add “es”
  - marries

# Rule # 8 Cont...

## Past tense conjugations:

- Add “ed” to most verbs
  - planted
- Add “ed” and use a past tense helping verb
  - Was planted
- Verbs ending in a single vowel and consonant-double the final consonant and add “ed”
  - planned
- Verbs ending in “e”-drop the “e” and add “ed”
  - raced
- Verbs ending in “y”-change “y” to “i” and add “ed”
  - buried

# Rule # 8 Cont...

Future tense conjugations:

- Use the main verb with “will” or “shall”
  - Will perform
  - Shall visit



# Rule #9 Pronouns

- Types of pronouns:
  - Subject pronouns
  - Object pronouns
  - Reflexive pronouns

# Subject pronouns:

- Replace a noun used as the subject of the sentence.

I	you	he	she	it	we	they
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- Examples:
  - **They** will arrive shortly.
  - **She** and **he** are cousins.
  - **You** and **I** were the first to finish the assignment.

# Object Pronouns:

- Replace a noun used after an action verb or a preposition.

me   you   him   her   it   us   them

- Examples:
  - Please give the game to **him**.
  - The teacher picked **her** to read aloud.
  - Michael Clifford sang a song about **us** in class.

# Reflexive Pronouns:

- Refer back to the subject.

myself	yourself	himself	herself	itself
ourselves	yourselves	themselves		

- Examples:
  - I looked at **myself** in the mirror.
  - **Mary** did this project all by **herself**.
  - The **hikers** found **themselves** far from camp.

# Rule #10 More Types of Pronouns

- Indefinite pronouns
- Demonstrative pronouns
- Interrogative pronouns

# Indefinite Pronouns:

- Do not name the words they replace.

everyone	other	everything	each
anybody	nothing	somebody	something
no one	none	nobody	everybody
both	anything	few many	several

- Examples:
  - **Anybody** can see that the lamp is broken.
  - **No one** was home, so we left a note.
  - **Somebody** should pick up the dog's toys.

# Demonstrative Pronouns:

- Point out a noun without naming it.

this that these those

- Examples:
  - **That** is a terrific idea!
  - **These** are the best ones.

# Interrogative Pronouns:

- Are used in asking a question.

who whose whom which what

- Examples:
  - **What** was that noise?
  - **Who** will be introducing the speaker?
  - With **whom** are you talking?
  - **Which** is your house?



# Rule #11: Antecedent of a Pronoun

- The noun or nouns to which the pronoun refers.

- Example:

Pronoun

- After Marcus brushed his teeth, he went to bed.

# Rule #11 Cont...

- The antecedent doesn't have to be in the same sentence as the pronoun.

- Example:

– Phyllis was excited to get a new computer. It was a great gift.

Pronoun

Antecedent

# Rule #11 Cont...

- A pronoun must agree with the antecedent in both gender and number.
- Example:
  - Ramon has a new **skateboard**.
  - He took **it** to the skate park.