Phrases and clauses

How can we use rules to generate a sentence? What is a phrase?

> What kinds of clauses are there? What's wrong with passive voice?

Grammar Therapy

Our list again

clauses

subordinate embedded

conjunctions

co-ordinating subordinating sentences

compound

modality

phrases

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complex

modal verbs

elaborated tenses

The Sentence Generator

Sort of like a computer program for generating sentences

but on paper



adverbials

apposition

nominalisation

Recursion

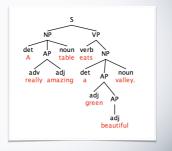
A thing contains a copy of itself or is defined in terms of itself.





Phrases

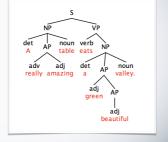
Where are the phrases in this sentence?



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Clauses

This sentence is a clause. It has everything the sentence needs, and nothing is left out.



Subjects and objects

How many participants do you need for a verb?

Depends on the verb



see smile

(seer, thing seen)
(smiler)

Bob saw the UFO.

give

(smiler) Joanne smiled.
(giver, gift, recipient) John gave the pen to Mary.

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70	4.1	1.0	
Are	these	์ เการเการ	:es/

Daniel x

Daniel ate. 🗸

An entire bowl of spaghetti. x

Ate an entire bowl of spaghetti. 🗴

Daniel ate an entire bowl of spaghetti. 🗸

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Clauses and sentences

A clause is a sentence all by itself

People left.

Everyone enjoyed the movie.

but some sentences can have more than one clause in them.

Join clauses with a coordinating conjunction to make a compound sentence

I put down my book **and** I fell asleep immediately.

Join them with a subordinating conjunction to make a complex sentence

We stayed in our seats **because** the credits hadn't finished.



Different structure I studied linguistics and my wife studied medicine. My wife studied medicine and I studied linguistics. When the alarm rang, I got up. I got up when the alarm rang. When the alarm rang.

Different kinds of clauses An independent (or main) clause can stand by itself I ate all the cupcakes... A dependent (or subordinate or embedded) clause can't ...because I have no self-control.

Adjective phrases

from The Elements of Eloquence: How to Turn the Perfect English Phrase by Mark Forsyth

Does Forsythe's rule hold up?

Think of some other adjective phrases, and try to find counterexamples.

Matthew Anderson of the Anders

40 1 04

Peeve of the week

less / fewer

What's the difference?

The standard grammar answer:

fewer is for countable nouns

less is for uncountable nouns



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But wait...

English speakers have been saying "less words" for a thousand years.

King Alfred the Great in 888 CE, for example

And the rule goes against our feels
You have to do it in five minutes or

It's for children ten years old or

Swa mid læs worda swa mid ma, swæðer we hit 3ereccan ma3on.



"whether we may prove it with

Where did this rule come from?

"This Word is most commonly used in speaking of a Number; where I should think Fewer would do better. No Fewer than a Hundred appears to me not only more elegant than No less than a Hundred, but strictly proper."

Robert Baker, 1770

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languag Vaugela French;	ons on the English ge, in the nature of ss's Reflections on the To which is prefixed a se addressed to His Majest
Robert	Baker
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A THE	

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Forms of a verb

Verbs in English often have five forms

eat main form

 eats
 3rd person singular
 he, she, it eats

 eating
 present participle
 I am eating

 ate
 past tense
 Yesterday, I ate

 eaten
 past participle
 I have eaten

I eat

For a lot of verbs, these last two are the same.

Yesterday, I worked.
I have worked.

How many forms for to be?

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Verbs

There are different kinds of verbs

Main verbs

eat, run, go, be, do, have, offer...

Auxiliary verbs

be, do, have

Modal verbs (hence modality)

can, could, shall, should, will, would, may, might, must

Phrasal verbs — a verb and a preposition (or two) make up, run out of, put up with...

Verbs These verbs can be used all at the same time. modal aux main main verb Daniel marked all the assignments. auxiliary verb + main verb Daniel has marked all the assignments. modal verb + auxiliary verb + auxiliary verb + main verb Daniel should have been marking all the assignments.

Tense and aspect	Subject		I	We
•			It Von	She
Make five sentences using these wo	ords. Try	j fc	r a rai	nge of
lengths.	Modals		should	would
Questions			might	must
				can
	3 41	. c .		
When you put a verb in a sentence,		fo		
		fo	rm of	
When you put a verb in a sentence,	Perfective		rm of	the wer
When you put a verb in a sentence, need to change? When, and to what	Perfective		rm of	the wer
When you put a verb in a sentence, need to change? When, and to what Do you know the names for these for	Perfective Orms of V Continuous		orm of	t <mark>he wer</mark> at
When you put a verb in a sentence, need to change? When, and to what Do you know the names for these for	? ^{Perfective} orms of v		rm of have	the wer en nat

What are tenses? Tense means time and tells us when something happened. Present tense Daniel eats a lot of chocolate. Past tense Daniel ate a lot of chocolate. Future Daniel will eat a lot of chocolate. (but notice how this is handled by a modal.)

Aside: why won't

Why is it won't and not willn't?
In early Modern English, there w
including will and woll
Will became the positive form

but woll stuck for the negative wollnot → wonnot → won't

E/I forms

welle, wele, well, wel, wille, wile, wel, **will**, wil, wyll O/U forms

wult, woo't, vot, wut, wolle, **woll**, wole

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Other verby things

Perfective aspect: have
Daniel has eaten squid.

present perfect

Continuous aspect: -ing

Daniel **is** eat**ing** chocolate.

present continuous

Combine them!

Daniel has been eating chocolate squid.

present perfect continuous

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What are these?

Daniel was eating chocolate squid.

past continuous

Daniel had eaten chocolate squid.

past perfect

Daniel had been eating chocolate squid.

past perfect continuous

Daniel will have eaten chocolate squid. future perfect

Daniel will have been eating chocolate squid.

future perfect continuous



Tense and aspect combos

go	present tense	past tense	future tense	conditional mood
Ø	simple present I go.	simple past I went.	simple future I will go.	simple conditional I would go.
continuous -ing	present continuous I am going.	past continuous I was going.	future continuous I will be going.	conditional continuous I would be going.
perfect have	present perfect I have gone.	past perfect (also pluperfect) I had gone.	future perfect I will have gone.	conditional perfect I would have gone.
perfect and continuous	present perfect continuous I have been going.	past perfect continuous I had been going.	future perfect continuous I will have been going.	conditional perfect continuous I would have been going.
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Passive voice

We can put a sentence in the regular way

A mysterious masked intruder stole the painting.

Or we can flip the participants

The painting was stolen by a mysterious masked intruder.

Notice two things that we need:

- 1. some form of the verb be
- 2. a past participle: stolen

but note some exceptions: The painting got stolen.

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What's wrong with passive voice?

Many people think that passive voice is an attempt to divert responsibility away from the speaker.

Mistakes were made.

But other times we use it when the doer isn't very important.

Aunt Alexandra was bitten by a snake.

It's okay to use passive voice sometimes, as long as you're not being a weasel about it.

We sincerely apologize to Moonlight, La La Land, Warren Beatty, Faye Dunaway, and Oscar viewers for the error that was made during the award announcement for Best Picture. The presenters had mistakenly been given the wrong category envelope and when discovered, was immediately corrected. We are currently investigating how this could have happened, and deeply regret that this occurred. We appreciate the grace with which the nominees, the Academy, ABC, and Jimmy Kimmel handled the situation.

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Things about grammar

Realise that language changes and this is normal.

We need language enthusiasts! but not language guardians. Language doesn't need protecting.

'Good grammar' and 'bad grammar' are recent inventions often as a way of telling 'good people' from 'bad people'

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Accommodating language attitudes

Being a skilful language user involves being able to change your language use depending on the situation

so go ahead and accommodate if someone requires your language use to be a certain way $\,$

even when you know that it could go either way.

What have we done?

Looked at some do's and don'ts of writing Gained familiarity with language terms Examined the concept of grammar Learned how to find answers to language questions

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Linguist List

Resources about language Blogs All Things Linguistic allthingslinguistic.com Superlinguo Language Log Grammar Girl superlinguo.com languagelog.ldc.upenn.edu/nll/ quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl Talk the Talk talkthetalkpodcast.com Speakeasy: ABC Perth danielmidgley.com/speakeasy/ Lingthusiasm lingthusiasm.com Vocal Fries vocalfriespod.fireside.fm Websites Online Etymological Dictionary etymonline.com

linguistlist.org Free linguistics lectures from MIT ocw.mit.edu/courses/find-by-topic/

Outcomes for Session 3

Given a grammar with phrase structure rules and a lexicon, generate a sentence

Explain what a clause is, and recognise different types Explain what a phrase is

Name the various tenses in the verb system of English Identify passive voice

Thank you! And questions.		
Grammar Therapy	Session 3	