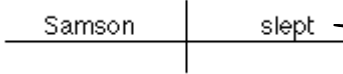


# Diagramming Sentences

## Basic Sentence Parts and Patterns

### 1. Simple subject and predicate<sup>1</sup>

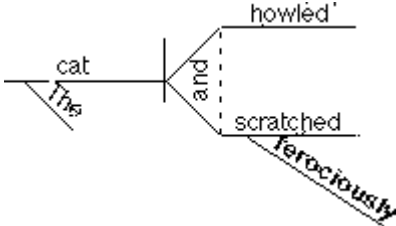
**Samson slept.**



“Slept” – the past tense of the verb “sleep” – is an intransitive verb (a verb that does not take a direct object).

### 2. Compound predicate

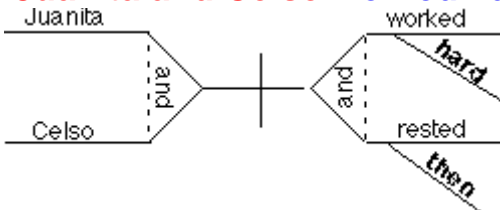
**The cat howled and scratched ferociously.**



Here, “howled” and “scratched” are intransitive verbs. But, some verbs, depending on usage, can be either transitive (taking a direct object) or intransitive (not taking a direct object). For example, in the sentence: “The cat scratched my brother,” “scratched” is being used as a transitive verb.

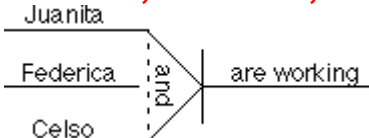
### 3. Compound subject and predicate

**Juanita and Celso worked hard and then rested.**



### 4. Three subjects

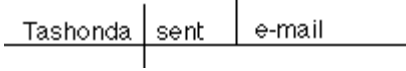
**Juanita, Federica, and Celso are working.**



<sup>1</sup> “The part of sentence or clause that expresses what is said of the subject and that usually consists of a verb with or without objects, complements, or adverbial modifiers.” *Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary* (1974).

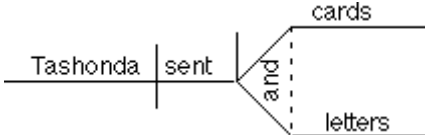
## 5. Direct object

Tashonda sent **e-mail**.



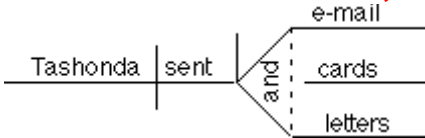
## 6. Compound direct objects

Tashonda sent **cards and letters**.



## 7. Three direct objects

Tashonda sent **e-mail, cards, and letters**.



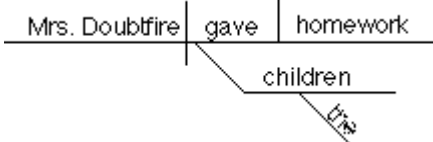
## 8. Compound predicate with one direct object

Samantha **proofreads and edits** her **essays**.



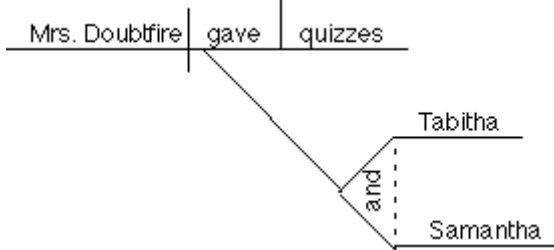
## 9. Indirect object

Mrs. Doubtfire gave **the children** homework. [that is: to **the children** – Mrs. D. is giving homework, not children]



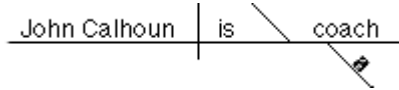
## 10. Compound indirect objects

Mrs. Doubtfire gave **Tabitha and Samantha** quizzes.



## 11. Predicate noun

John Calhoun is a **coach**.

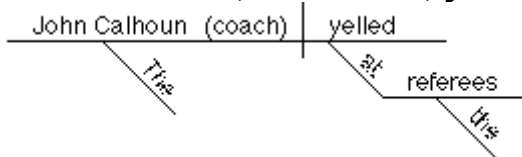


In Latin, "John Calhoun" and "coach" will be in the same case (Nominative). More on this later!

This applies to both predicate nouns and appositives.

## 12. Appositive

John Calhoun, **the coach**, yelled at the referees.



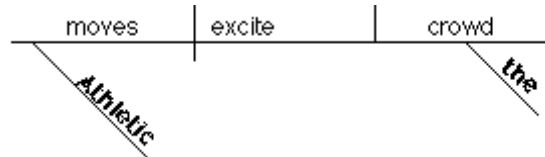
## 13. Direct address

**Heitor**, address the class now.



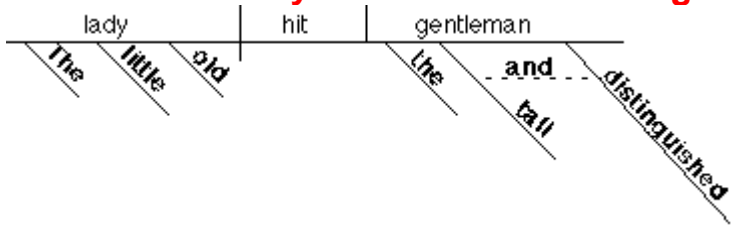
## 14. Adjective

**Athletic** moves excite the crowd.



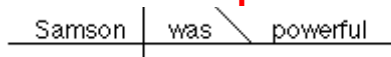
15. Compound adjectives

The little old lady hit the tall and distinguished gentleman.



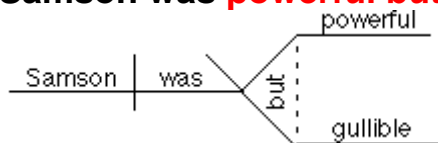
16. Predicate adjective

Samson was powerful.



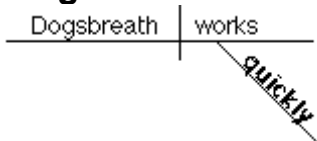
17. Compound predicate adjectives

Samson was powerful but gullible.



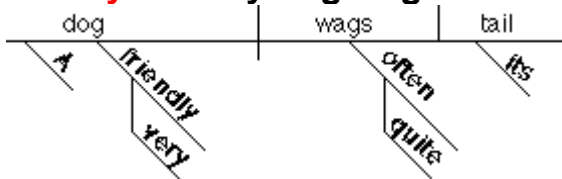
18. Adverb

Dogsbreath works quickly.



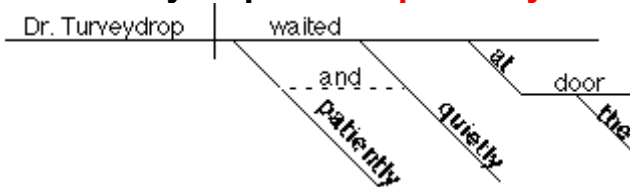
19. Adverbs modifying other adverbs

A very friendly dog wags its tail quite often.



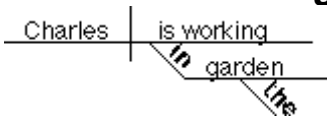
## 20. Compound adverbs

Dr. Turveydrop waited **patiently and quietly** at the door.



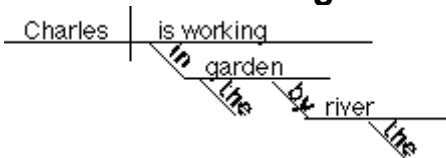
## 21. Prepositional phrase

Charles is working **in the garden**.



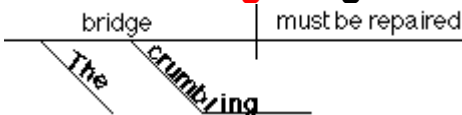
## 22. Prepositional phrase modifying another prepositional phrase

Charles is working **in the garden by the river**.



## 23. Participle

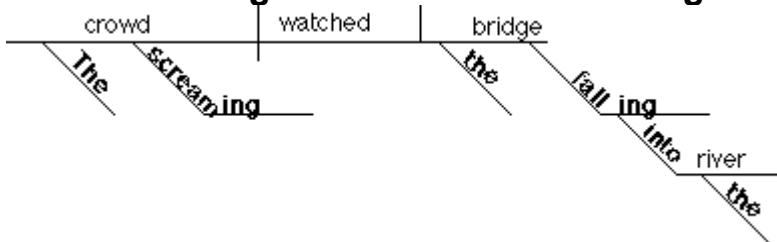
The **crumbling** bridge must be repaired.



A participle is an adjective formed from a verb (in this case, "to crumble"). We use participles all the time without even thinking about it!

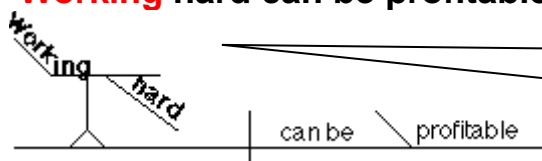
## 24. Participial phrase

The screaming crowd watched the bridge **falling into the river.**



## 25. Gerund

**Working** hard can be profitable.



A gerund is a verbal noun (a noun formed from a verb). The ending “-ing” is usually a good indicator of a gerund.

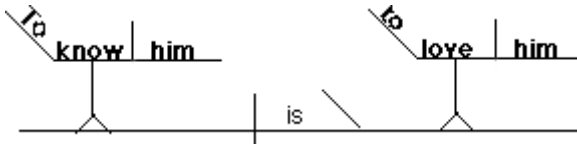
## 26. Gerund phrase acting as object

Terminata hates **eating broccoli.**



## 27. Infinitive as noun (subject & predicate)

**To know him** is **to love him.**



## 28. Correlative Conjunction

**Either** we wash the walls, **or** we paint them.

