

# Sentence Structure (Syntax)

**2. A sentence is a group of words arranged in a certain order which, when tied together, conveys an idea, a description, or an event.  
Syntax is the structure of sentences.**

## Typical word order in a sentence:

simple sentence

Subject – Verb – Direct Object – Indirect Object

expanded sentence

Subject – Verb – Object – Manner – Place – Time

## Modifiers and Appositives

modifiers are words that describe other words

single words, phrases, or complete clauses

appositives rename the noun or pronoun preceding them

use a comma to separate

## Basic sentence structures

a simple sentence is an independent clause

a compound sentence contains two or more simple sentences

a complex sentence is a combination of an independent clause (simple sentence) and a dependent clause

a compound-complex sentence contains a combination of a compound sentence and a complex sentence

## Run-on sentences and sentence fragments

run-on sentences occur when two or more independent clauses are unseparated by any form of punctuation

sentence fragments occur when an incomplete thought or a dependent clause is treated like a complete sentence