

Grammar 2 module goes deeper in English grammar, and the sentence structure.

The Passive Voice

Let's look at this sentence: I drank two cups of coffee. This is an active sentence and it has the subject first (the person or thing that does the verb), followed by the verb, and finally the object (the person or thing that the action happens to). So, in this example, the subject is 'I', the verb is 'drank' and the object is 'two cups of coffee'. But, we don't always need to make sentences this way. We might want to put the object first, or perhaps we don't want to say who did something. This can happen for lots of reasons (see the explanation further down the page). In this case, we can use a passive, which puts the object first:

Tense Active Passive

present simple: I make a cake. A cake is made (by me).

present continuous: I am making a cake. A cake is being made (by me).

past simple: I made a cake. A cake was made (by me).

past continuous I was making a cake. A cake was being made (by me).

present perfect: I have made a cake. A cake has been made (by me).

present perfect continuous: I have been making a cake.
A cake has been being made (by me).

past perfect: I had made a cake. A cake had been made
(by me)

Reported Speech

In reported speech (also called indirect speech) we report what was said. The most common verbs used for this are say, tell, ask, explain, even think, etc, and ones met at higher levels would include suggest, hint, boast, demand, insist, etc. We could repeat the speaker's words (direct speech) where these are important, or for drama or immediacy:

He said, "Let's get the hell out of here!"

But normally we use reported speech, and this allows us to color the utterance somewhat:

He said it might be a good idea to vacate the premises.

However, there are structure rules which generally apply.

When we use reported speech, we either report:

- a . statements
- b. questions: W/h questions; Yes/no questions
- c. requests/ commands

There are different types of sentence structures, including simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences. Here's an overview of these structures:

1. Simple Sentence:

- A simple sentence consists of one independent clause (a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate).

- Example: She walks.

He plays football.

2. Compound Sentence:

- A compound sentence contains two or more independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction (and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet) or a semicolon.

- Example: She walks, and he runs.

They watch, and they listen.

3. Complex Sentence:

- A complex sentence has one independent clause and at least one dependent clause (a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate but cannot stand alone as a complete sentence).

- Example: -Although she walks, he runs.

-Although it was raining, Sarah decided to go for a run in the park.

4. Compound-Complex Sentence:

- A compound-complex sentence includes two or more independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.

- Example: -Although she walks, he runs, and they both laugh.

-While I was studying for my exams, my friend went to the library, and we later met at the café to discuss our notes.

5. Parallel Structure:

- Parallel structure involves using the same grammatical structure for elements in a sentence that are of equal importance.

- Example: She likes hiking, swimming, and biking.

6. Inverted Sentence:

- An inverted sentence has the normal word order reversed for emphasis or stylistic reasons.

- Example: On the table sat a beautiful vase.

7. Loose and Periodic Sentences:

- A loose sentence has the main idea at the beginning, followed by phrases and clauses that provide additional information.

- A periodic sentence has the main idea at the end, creating suspense or emphasis.

- Example of loose: She went to the store, despite the rain, to buy some groceries.

- Example of periodic: Despite the rain, she went to the store to buy some groceries.

8. Conditional Sentence:

- A conditional sentence expresses a hypothetical situation and includes an "if" clause.
- Example: If it rains, we will stay indoors.

Understanding and using a variety of sentence structures can enhance the clarity and effectiveness of your writing. It allows you to express ideas with nuance and create a more engaging reading experience.

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