Basic Sentence Patterns

S-LV-C

This pattern is composed of

Subject +
Linking Verb +
Subject Complement

Linking verbs are verbs that do not express action. Instead, they connect the **subject** of the **verb** to additional information about the subject. Sense verbs may also be linking verbs.

A subject complement is a noun or adjective that follows a linking verb.

I am busy.

Subject — Linking Verb — Subject Complement

They look sick.

Subject — Linking Verb — Subject Complement

Joe became a doctor.

Subject — Linking Verb — Subject Complement

S-TV-DO

This pattern is composed of

Subject +
Transitive Verb +
Direct Object

A <u>transitive verb</u> is an action verb that requires an object for its meaning to be complete.

A <u>direct object</u> is a noun that receives the action of the transitive verb. It answers the question "What?" or "Who?".

Sheila drives a car.

Subject   *TV*   *DO*

Leo loves Smit.

Subject   *TV*   *DO*

S-InV-Adv.

This pattern is composed of

Subject + Intransitive Verb

or

Subject + Intransitive Verb + Adverb

The boy danced.
Subject   *IV*

An <u>intransitive verb</u> is an action verb that does not require an object for its meaning to be complete.

The boy danced gracefully.
Subject   *IV*   *Adverb*

S-TrV-IO-DO

This pattern is composed of

Subject +
Transitive Verb +
Indirect Object +
Direct Object

An **indirect object** precedes the direct object and tells **to whom** or **for whom** the action of the verb is done.

Tom gave her a gift.
S   TV   IO   DO

Agnes baked Tony some cookies.
S   TV   IO   DO

S-TRV-DO-OC

This pattern is composed of

Subject +
Transitive Verb +
Direct Object +
Object Complement

An **object complement** is a noun or adjective that describes or tells something about the direct object.

Michael calls his mother Nanay.
S   TV   DO   OC

Senators declared the bill unconstitutional.
S   TV   DO   OC

EVALUATION

Identify the pattern of the following sentences and label their components.

1. Dr. Fleming named his magic stuff Penicillin.

2. The stone feels rough.

3. Carlos gave a speech.

4. We gave him a resounding applause.

5. He spoke with a very weird accent.