A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought.

A sentence must have a subject and a predicate.

The subject names the person, place, thing, or idea the sentence is about.

The predicate informs the reader about the subject.

Example: Subject Predicate
          My father lives in Colorado.

Sometimes a sentence will need a complement to sound complete. The four types of complements are direct objects, indirect objects, predicate nominatives, and predicate adjectives.

The direct object is a noun or a pronoun that receives the action of the verb. To locate a direct object, ask the question: What? or Whom? after the verb.

Example: The cat drank the milk.

The indirect object answers a (To whom? For whom? To what? or for what?) question about the verb.

Example: Fred bought his girlfriend a diamond ring.

The Predicate Nominative is a noun or a pronoun that follows a linking verb and identifies, renames, or explains the subject.

Example: Jesus is Lord.

The Predicate Adjective is an adjective that identifies, renames, or explains the subject.

Example: The movie is boring.