

PARTS OF A WORD

A word can be divided into its STEM (the basic part of the word containing its meaning) and its INFLECTIONS (the endings added to indicate such things as that a noun is PLURAL or a verb is in the past tense).

Examples:	Stem:	dog walk
	Inflections:	s in dogs ed in walked

PARTS OF A SENTENCE

SUBJECT

The subject is the person, thing or topic which the sentence deals with. To discover the subject, ask **who** or **what** before the verb, e.g. in the sentence **The house stands on the hill**, *what* stands on the hill? Answer: **the house**.

Examples:	The house stands on the hill. It overlooks the plain.
-----------	--

PREDICATE

The predicate is all of the sentence except the subject.

Examples:	The house stands on the hill . It overlooks the plain .
-----------	--

OBJECT

The object is the person, thing or topic upon which the subject carries out the action of the verb. To discover the object, ask **who** or **what** after the verb, e.g. the house overlooks *what*? Answer: the plain.

Examples:	The house overlooks the plain . I see him clearly. He watches himself carefully.
-----------	---

In some cases a whole clause can act as object.

Example:	He said that the Green Knight was really orange .
----------	--

Sometimes we apparently have two objects. Where one of these can alternatively be expressed by placing **to** before it, it is called the **indirect object**. For example, instead of He **gave me the book** we can say He **gave the book to me**. Here **the book** is the direct object and **me** the indirect object.

COMPLEMENT

After the verb **to be** there is no object since the noun which follows refers to the same thing as that which precedes the verb (the subject). The noun following the verb **to be** is called the complement.

Examples: I am a **man**.
This is **the question**.

CLAUSE

There are two kinds of clauses: **principal** (or main) clauses, and **subordinate** (or dependent) clauses.

Principal Clauses

A group of words which includes a subject and a finite verb and makes a complete statement.

Examples: I am a **man**.
The house stands on the **hill**.
When I come home, I will let **the cat in**.

The following are **not** principal clauses because they do not make a complete statement which can stand by itself:

Which is a **problem**
That the house is standing on the **hill**
When I come home
The house which stands on the **hill**

Subordinate Clause

A group of words which includes a finite or non-finite verb but does not make a statement which stands by itself.

Examples: As soon as the Green Knight entered the room all were astounded.
He said **that the Green Knight was really orange**.
The house, **which stands on the hill**, is empty.

Subordinate clauses can be classified according to their function:

Adverbial Clause

Example: As soon as the Green Knight entered the room, all were astounded.

In this sentence the clause fulfills the same function as an adverb such as **immediately** in the sentence **immediately all were astounded**.

Noun Clause