

MFBMCLCT MEMORIAL COLLEGE

English Language Writing Support (2)

Sentence Patterns for Beginners

1 (Simple Sentences)

(1) S + V[I]

(2) S + V[I] + SC

(3) S + V[T] + O

(4) S + V[T] + IO + DO

(5) S + V[T] + O + C

(1) S + V[I]

Time flies.

S V

He usually gets up early in the morning.

S V

John is talking aloud.

S V

John and Mary are singing and dancing happily in the party.

S V

(2) S + V[I] + SC

Miss Liu is my English teacher.

S V SC

The leaves turn red in autumn.

S V SC

The students seem happy in their English class.

S V SC

(3) S + V[T] + O

Boys and girls played soccer for fun and health.

S V O

Bill always makes his own bed.

S V O

He always borrowed my clothes.

S V O

Our math teacher likes to play chess.

There is some milk.

There are some swimmers.

S V O

(4) S + V[T] + IO + DO

My boyfriend gave me roses as my birthday present.

S V IO DO

I wrote my brother a letter last Sunday.

S V IO DO

Would you please pass me the salt?

S V IO DO

(5)S + V[T] + O + OC

I consider you my best friend.

S V O OC

The bad news made us unhappy.

S V O OC

Helen sometimes leaves her son alone at home.

S V O OC

2 (Compound Sentences)

(1) **and** , **or** , **but** , **for** , **yet** , **nor** , **so**.

Examples:

John is a doctor, **and** his wife is a teacher.

You must leave earlier, **or** you won't catch the bus.

I would like to go shopping with you, **but** I need to prepare for the test tomorrow.

(2) **"not only...but also"** 、 **"either...or..."** 、 **"neither...nor..."**.

Examples:

Not only did they break into his office and steal his books, **but they also** tore up his manuscripts.

Either Mary is stupid, **or** she pretends that she is.

They have **neither** replied to my letters, **nor** have they answered my telephone calls.

(3) **however** , **besides** , **therefore**

Examples:

Sharon Stone is my favorite movie star; **however**, I seldom have a chance to see her films.

Nobody knows the truth; **besides**, nobody is brave enough to dig out the truth.

3 (Complex Sentences)

(1) main clause

I find that you are very important to me.

S V noun clause(O)

Whoever did this should be punished.

noun clause(S) V

If the student is naughty, his teacher will give him punishment.

if clause main clause

(2) main clause + adjective clause

I spoke to the woman who owns the hotel.

relative clause (modify woman)

The man who interviewed me was very nice.

relative clause (modify man)

Did you see the letter that came this morning?

relative clause (modify letter)

The keys which were on this table have disappeared.

relative clause (modify keys)

The reporter interviewed the people whose house caught fire.

relative clause (modify people)

What's the name of the place where you spent your holiday last year?

relative clause (place)

Is there a reason (why) you want to leave now?

relative clause (reason)

Is there a time (when) we can meet?

relative clause (time)

(3) main clause + adverb clause

While a policeman was patrolling the streets, he heard their cries for help.

adverb clause (time)

I didn't go to school yesterday because I was sick.

adverb clause (reason)

Almost anyone can learn a foreign language well if he or she wants to.

adverb clause (condition)

Although I love money, I won't do anything illegal to get it.

adverb clause (concession)

Some people enjoy outdoor activities, whereas others like to stay indoors.

adverb clause (contrast)

