SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Sentences consist of two key elements: the **subject** and its **verb**. The **subject** is the main character of the sentence. It is a person, place, thing, or concept doing an action or being described. Every single sentence *must* have at least one subject. There are three main types of verbs: **active verbs**, **passive verbs**, and **linking verbs**.

**The basic sentence structure is subject + verb. As long as you have those two items, you have a complete sentence.**

### BASIC SENTENCE STRUCTURE WITH DIFFERENT VERBS

1. **Active Verbs** - An active verb (AV) expresses the **subject’s (S)** action and often acts upon an **object (O)**, which is a person, place, thing or concept.

   **Example:**
   
   $$ S \quad AV \quad O $$
   
   Danielle wrote this paper.

2. **Passive Verbs** – In contrast, a passive verb (PV) acts upon the **subject**. Passive verbs are easily recognizable because they are paired with “to be” verbs (am, is, are, was, were, be, being, and been).

   **Example:**
   
   $$ S \quad PV $$
   
   The *paper* was written by Danielle.

3. **Linking Verb** – A **linking verb (LV)** connects the **subject** with either a **predicate noun (PN)** or **predicate adjective (PA)**.

   **Examples:**
   
   $$ S \quad LV \quad PN $$
   
   Danielle *is* an expert writing tutor.

   $$ S \quad LV \quad AN $$
   
   Danielle *is* brilliant.

Predicate Noun – a noun (person, place, thing or concept) that gives further detail about the sentence’s subject.

Predicate Adjective – describing word that gives further detail about the sentence’s subject.