

## Back to Basics



Florida summers are very hot. (declarative)  
Are summers in Florida very hot? (interrogative)

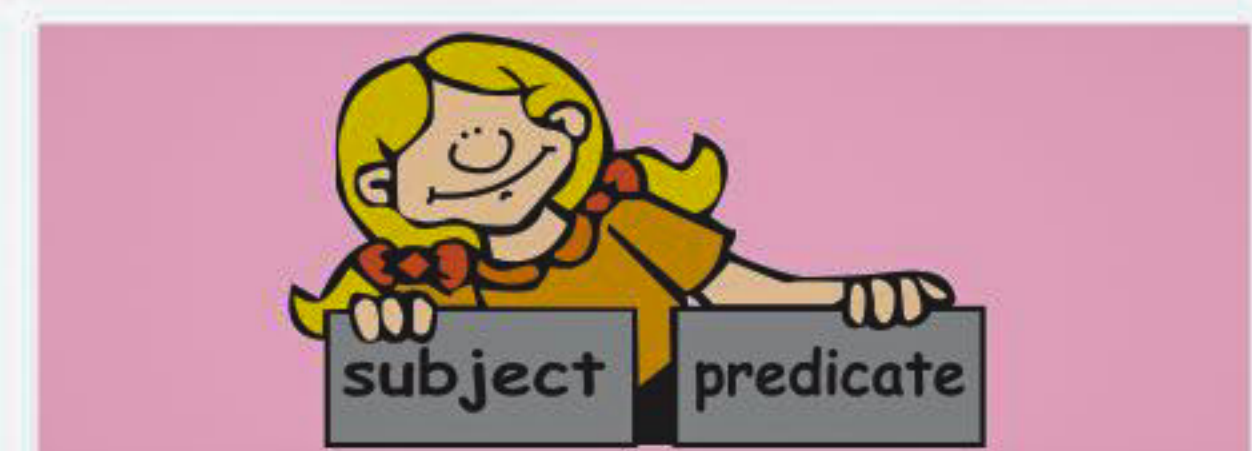
### Exercise: 1

Write in the blank **dec.** (declarative) if the sentence makes a statement **int** (interrogative) if the sentence asks a question.  
**int** Can you help me with my algebra?

1. I'm going swimming today.
2. Is the president addressing the nation on television tonight?
3. My grandfather was an army sergeant.
4. Mitchell plans to audition for the choir.
5. Margaret bought this dress in Mexico.
6. Claire, will you help me practice my lines?
7. Are you going to camp this summer?
8. You are good at solving puzzles.
9. How long did it take you to read *The Red Badge of Courage*?
10. Our soccer team won the league championship.

### Exercise: 2

- Punctuate each of the following sentences with a period or question mark.
- The new car is midnight blue.
1. Have you met Danielle yet.
  2. Who is hungry.
  3. This computer doesn't work.
  4. The fire engines roared past us.
  5. Suzanne wandered home from school.
  6. Did Clyde get the part he wanted in the musical comedy.
  7. The desk was cluttered with all kinds of papers.
  8. Janice and Shawna went to the movies last night.
  9. Will you put up a new bulletin board.
  10. Will Pablo know what to do.
  11. Paula opened the door carefully.
  12. Can you hear the music from the auditorium.
  13. Does anyone here know Italian.
  14. Akira does not like to read mysteries.
  15. Did you read the entire book last night.



Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate to express a complete thought. The subject part of a sentence names who or what the sentence is about. The predicate part tells what the subject does or has. It can also describe what the subject is or is like.

#### SUBJECT PREDICATE

My friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament.

A sentence fragment is a group of words that lacks a subject, a predicate, or both. A fragment does not express a complete thought.

- Will play in the volleyball tournament. (lacks a subject)  
My friend Joel. (lacks a predicate)  
Without a doubt. (lacks both a subject and a predicate)  
Without a doubt, my friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament. (expresses a complete thought)

### Exercise: 5

Write a complete sentence by adding a subject, a predicate, or both to each sentence fragments. Punctuate your sentence correctly.

Marla and Kimberly. **Marla and Kimberly walked home.**

1. Marla and Kimberly.
2. On the shelves.
3. Dusty the books.
4. Maple and elm trees.
5. Greeted Eloisa.
6. At the library.
7. John Kimura the dentist.
8. Looked at Isabel.
9. Flat, sandy fields.
10. The mystery of space.
11. In the closet.
12. Busy traffic.
13. Carmen and her sister.
14. Followed the directions.
15. Saw the falling star.

Find the answers in next MONDAY issue

## Back to Basics!! It all starts with a sentence!

A group of words that expresses a complete thought is a sentence. All sentences begin with a capital letter. A declarative sentence makes a statement. It ends with a period. An interrogative sentence asks a question. It ends with a question mark.



A **preposition** is a word that shows a relationship between a noun (or a pronoun) and some other word in the sentence.

**Prepositions can show where people or things are located.**

The girl walked **through** the door.

The preposition **through** describes where the girl walked in relation to the door.

My book is **under** the papers.

The preposition **under** describes where the book is in relation to the papers.

**Prepositions can also show time relationships.**

I went to the store **before** I made dinner.

The preposition **before** describes the time relationship between going to the store and making dinner.

We told ghost stories **during** the night.

The preposition **during** describes the time relationship between telling ghost stories and the night.



### Exercise: 6

Fill in the gaps with **at, in or on**.

1. It's ridiculous. The bank closes ..... 2: 30 p.m.
2. I normally phone my girlfriend ..... 10 o'clock every evening.
3. .... 1492, Columbus sailed the ocean blue.
4. I love watching the James Bond film ..... Christmas Day.
5. Jim had a terrible journey to Wales ..... Christmas Eve 2003.
6. We're planning to go skiing ..... Easter.
7. She passed her driving test ..... March.
8. Some people study best ..... night but I prefer the morning.
9. I hate doing the shopping ..... Saturdays.
10. Valencia is too hot for me ..... summer.
11. .... Sunday mornings I have coffee and toast for breakfast.
12. She's always very grumpy first thing ..... the morning.
13. I hate going out ..... the week.
14. We usually go out for dinner ..... the weekend.
15. .... Wednesday evenings I go to English class.

## SENTENCE FRAGMENT

### Exercise: 4

Write **sentence** in the blank before each word group that expresses a complete thought. Write **fragment** next to each word group that does not express a complete thought.

..... **was playing football.**  
**fragment**

1. The survivors of the earthquake showed great.
2. Caused problems everywhere.
3. Every Sunday their family went hiking.
4. Even the rain couldn't dampen their spirits.
5. Rode calmly and quietly in the backseat.
6. Rose in the air like a bird.
7. Of his meal untouched.
8. Hundreds of firefighters fought the forest fires.
9. The thought escaped him.
10. As fragile as glass.



A sentence may do more than express a statement or ask a question. An exclamatory sentence expresses a strong emotion. It ends with an exclamation point. An imperative sentence gives a command or makes a request. It ends with a period.

**Look out!** (strong emotion)

**Don't forget the party Saturday.** (command)

**Please mail these letters on your way to Janet's house.** (request)

### Exercise: 3

Write in the blank **exc.** (exclamatory) if the sentence expresses a strong feeling

Write **imp.** (imperative) if the sentence gives a command or makes a request. Add a period or an exclamation point as needed.

Remember to keep your eyes on the ball at all times. (imperative)

1. Don't stay up too late.
2. What a terrific day we had at the zoo !
3. Watch out for that low branch!
4. Tell me more about your fishing trip.
5. Don't run in the halls !
6. Buy more glue when you go to the store.
7. Clean up your desk, please.
8. Let's go watch the parade.
9. That muddy dog just stole my hamburger !
10. Try to solve the puzzle before the contestant does.
11. Let the baby sleep.
12. Oh, you just sat in some wet paint !

### Exercise: 7

Write the preposition of time for the following. If a preposition isn't used, put X.

- |                          |                             |                          |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. _____ Monday          | 11. _____ noon              | 21. _____ the evening    |
| 2. _____ yesterday       | 12. _____ Christmas         | 22. _____ every day      |
| 3. _____ the morning     | 13. _____ the 12th century  | 23. _____ New Year's eve |
| 4. _____ three o'clock   | 14. _____ the 12th of April | 24. _____ September      |
| 5. _____ next year       | 15. _____ tomorrow          | 25. _____ next year      |
| 6. _____ midnight        | 16. _____ 11 AM             | 26. _____ Tuesday night  |
| 7. _____ our anniversary | 17. _____ night             | 27. _____ last month     |
| 8. _____ last summer     | 18. _____ the moment        | 28. _____ dawn           |
| 9. _____ summer          | 19. _____ 1994              | 29. _____ autumn         |
| 10. _____ March          | 20. _____ the weekend       | 30. _____ October 26     |



## ANSWER KEY TO THE LAST EIS PAGE ACTIVITIES (DATED FEBRUARY 16, 2015)

KEY : A

1. correct
2. incorrect Answer: How nice that Joseph offered to help clean up afterward.
3. correct
4. correct
5. correct.

KEY : B

11. Mrs. Tomaino lives across the street.
12. Excellent job, Kayla! I knew you could do it if you put your mind to it.
13. Rev. Bill Turner spoke at a youth conference in St. Louis this past weekend.
14. The itinerary shows that the tour starts at 8 A.M. and goes to 4:30 P.M.
15. Colfax Jct. is the third stop before reaching Highland Borough.
16. Gee! Why did Mark leave late? He promised to be here by 10 A.M.

KEY : C

1. Marie's fat Siamese cat lounged in the front window. (No comma is needed: neither "Marie's Siamese fat cat ." nor "Marie's Siamese and fat cat ." makes sense.)
2. The large, scary bug crawled quickly across the bedroom floor.
3. We ate chips, salsa, pretzels, pizza, and popcorn during the movie.
4. "How many days," Juan continued, "do we have off of school?"
5. The elephant in the center ring had leathery skin, a long trunk, and big floppy ears.
6. "I really hope David makes

### Exercise: 10

Underline the prepositional phrase in the following sentences :

1. Many people are intolerant of opinions and actions which do not confirm to their ideas of appropriate behavior.
2. From this experience, I have learned my lesson about the dangers of telling lies.
3. The children danced around the pole until the song came to an end.
4. We ran toward the barn when the storm broke from the clouds.
5. The trail that winds up the mountain leads to the top of the ridge near the edge of the cliff.

### Exercise: 8

Circle the correct preposition of time.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ my wife's birthday, I always bake her a cake and give her a piece of jewelry.  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X
2. Cinderella's carriage changed into a pumpkin \_\_\_\_\_ midnight.  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X
3. Which should we do \_\_\_\_\_ tonight: go to a concert or see a movie?  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X
4. We can move to a house \_\_\_\_\_ two months, but only if we can rent the apartment first.  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X
5. Typically \_\_\_\_\_ Christmas, we visit my grandpar ents in the country.  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X
6. I need to meet him \_\_\_\_\_ three o'clock.  
(a). at (b). in (c). on (d). X

### Exercise: 9

Write sentences using a preposition of time and the following words:

- 1999: \_\_\_\_\_  
8 o'clock: \_\_\_\_\_  
18th Century: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tomorrow morning: \_\_\_\_\_  
Next Month: \_\_\_\_\_  
Winter: \_\_\_\_\_  
2018: \_\_\_\_\_  
Saturday night: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ten minutes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Half an hour: \_\_\_\_\_

### Exercise: 11

Circle the preposition in each sentence.

1. Dwight walked across the street.
2. Erin wandered into the pet store.
3. Michael left before lunchtime.
4. Jim's office is near the cafeteria.
5. Angela fell asleep during class.
6. Andy drove around the block.
7. Under a warm blanket, Pam rested.
8. Stanley sat on his new rocking chair.