



Introduction to sentence construction

A **sentence** is a group of words that makes sense on its own. For example:

Naz went to the shops.

A sentence always has a **subject** ('Naz') and a **verb** ('went').

'To the shops' is not a sentence, because it does not give enough information. You need to know who (subject) did what (verb).

A sentence always starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop (.), question mark (?) or exclamation mark (!). For example:

- The cat ate the food. (A fact or statement.)
- Do you want more? (A question.)
- You must go! (A command or shout.)

NOTE: Sentences that take the form of a command do not need to have a subject.
(eg Shut the door!)

Tips

- Sentences can be very short (two words) or long.
- If they are too long they can be difficult to read and understand.
- Before you write, you should be able to say the whole sentence to yourself. If you can't it might be too long.