Diagramming Sentences

Basic Sentence Parts and Patterns

1. Simple subject and predicate
   Samson slept.
   \[ \text{Samson} \quad \text{slept} \]

2. Understood subject (for commands, directives)
   Sit!
   \[ (\text{you}) \quad \text{sit} \]

3. Questions
   - Where are you going?
     \[ \text{you} \quad \text{are going} \quad \text{Where} \]
   - What were you reading this morning?
     \[ \text{you} \quad \text{were reading} \quad \text{What} \]
     \[ \text{morning this} \]
   - Whose bike were you using?
     \[ \text{you} \quad \text{were using} \quad \text{bike} \quad \text{Whose} \]
   - May I postpone this assignment?
     \[ \text{I} \quad \text{May postpone} \quad \text{assignment} \quad \text{this} \]

4. Compound predicate
   The cat howled and scratched ferociously.
   \[ \text{cat} \quad \text{howled} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{scratched} \quad \text{ferociously} \]

5. Compound subject and compound predicate
   Juanita and Celso worked hard and then rested.
   \[ \text{Juanita} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Celso} \quad \text{worked} \quad \text{hard} \quad \text{then} \quad \text{rested} \]
7. Three subjects
Juanita, Federica, and Celso are working.

8. Direct object
Tashonda sent e-mail.

9. Compound direct objects
Tashonda sent cards and letters.

10. Three direct objects
Tashonda sent e-mail, cards, and letters.

11. Compound predicate with direct objects
Joselyn cooked breakfast and ate it.

12. Compound predicate with one direct object
Samantha proofreads and edits her essays.

13. Indirect object
Mrs. Doubtfire gave the children homework.
14. **Compound indirect objects**
Mrs. Doubtfire gave **Tabitha and Samantha** quizzes.

15. **Predicate noun**
John Calhoun is a **coach**.

16. **Objective complement**
Johnny painted his old jalopy **purple**.

The club elected Tashonda **[as its] president**.

17. **Reflexive Pronouns**
[as direct object] José cut **himself**.
[as indirect object] Mr. Edwards gave **himself** a raise.
[as object of a preposition] She cared only for **herself**.
18. **Intensive Pronoun**

I *myself* prefer basketball.  
[or] I prefer basketball *myself.*

19. **Appositive**

John Calhoun, *the coach,* yelled at the referees.

20. **Direct address**

*Heitor,* address the class now.

21. **Interjection**

*Man,* that hurt!

22. **Adjective**

*Athletic* moves excite the crowd.

23. **Compound adjectives**

The *little old lady* hit the *tall and distinguished* gentleman.

24. **Predicate adjective**

Samson was *powerful.*
25. Compound predicate adjectives
Samson was powerful but gullible.

26. Comparative adjective
Joanna is considerably taller than her brother.

27. Adverb
Dogsbreath works quickly.

28. Adverbs modifying other adverbs
A very friendly dog wags its tail quite often.

29. Compound adverbs
Dr. Turveydrop waited patiently and quietly at the door.

30. Prepositional phrase
Charles is working in the garden.
31. Prepositional phrase modifying another prepositional phrase
Charles is working in the garden by the river.

32. Preposition with compound objects
The thought of getting up and working is alarming.

33. Prepositional phrase modifying an adverb
Tashonda does her best work early during the semester.

34. Prepositional phrase as subjective complement
She felt under the weather.

35. Participle
The crumbling bridge must be repaired.
36. Participial phrase
The screaming crowd watched the bridge falling into the river.

37. Gerund
Working hard can be profitable.

38. Gerund phrase acting as object
Terminata hates eating broccoli.

39. Gerund phrase as object of a preposition
Wolfson wrote a book about playing basketball.

40. Infinitive as noun (subject & predicate)
To know him is to love him.

41. Infinitive acting as adjective
His decision to leave early was unfortunate.
42. Infinitive acting as adverb
   He is determined to work hard.

43. Infinitive as direct object
   The Eagles slowly began to climb the national rankings.

44. Infinitive phrase as object of preposition
   Pedrito had no choice except to run away.

45. Infinitive phrase as objective complement
   Mom wanted me to do the dishes.

46. Infinitive phrase as appositive
   It was a mistake to elect William president.
47. **Causative Verb**  
Professor Villa made her students **read** four novels.

48. **Expletive Construction**  
There are never enough hot dogs at the annual picnic.

There is no one working with Albert.

49. **Absolute Construction**  
To tell the truth, I do not remember meeting her.

50. **Correlative Conjunction**  
Either we wash the walls, or we paint them.

51. **Passive Verbs**  
The burglar was shot.
Mary was awarded the Smith Case.

Turveydrop was named chairman while he was out of the room.