



CLASS IX & X
ENGLISH GRAMMAR
PART I
LESSON 1 - THE SENTENCE

NOTES

When we talk to communicate with others we use words. Words are made up of sounds produced by the mouth. The spoken words will have to be written by using signs standing for sounds. These signs are called letters. Sounds and letters are the seeds of language. They join together to make words. Generally, we use some words together. These words used together are known as **word-group** or **groups of words**. The words in the word-groups are to be arranged in correct order to make sense.

Word-Groups:

- i. Phrase:** When a word-group makes some sense but not complete sense, it is called a phrase.
Example: in the morning
- ii. Sentence:** When a word-group makes complete sense, it is called a sentence.
Example: We played together.
- iii. One-word sentence:** However, with a single word we may understand what the speaker means. Here other words are implied or understood. But we cannot go far with such a sentence.
Example: Come.

A sentence has usually two parts: The Subject and The Predicate

- 1. Subject:** The Subject of a sentence denotes a person or thing about whom or which something is said. It must be a Noun or Noun - equivalent. It may consist of one word or a group of words. Again the subjects are understood in some sentences.
Examples:
 - i.** I shall go to market in the evening.
 - ii.** You will see many new things in the world.
 - iii.** Come here.

(Note 1: In these sentences, 'I' and 'You' are the subjects of the sentences.)

(Note 2: In the sentence, e.g. (iii), the subject 'you' is understood.)

- 2. Predicate:** The Predicate of a sentence denotes what is said about the subject. It must contain a finite verb expressed or understood. It may consist of one word or a group of words.
Examples:
 - i.** The boys ran away.
 - ii.** I am going to learn computer.

(Note: In these sentences, 'ran away' and 'am going to learn computer' are the predicates.)



Classification of sentences according to their types

There are five types of sentences. They are:

- i. Assertive or Declarative Sentences:** They state or declare something. Further the Assertive sentences may be Affirmative sentences which affirm things or actions or Negative sentences which deny things or actions. These sentences always end with a full stop (.)

Examples:

- a. Boys gathered to watch the cricket match.
- b. He has not done his homework.

- ii. Interrogative Sentences:** Sentences which are used to ask questions are called Interrogative Sentences. An interrogation mark (?) should always be put at the end of such a sentence.

Examples:

- a. What is your name?
- b. Have you brought your books?

- iii. Imperative Sentences:** Sentences which are used to express commands, requests, advices or proposals are called Imperative Sentences. A full stop (.) is always put at the end of such a sentence.

Examples:

- a. Stand up.
- b. Please help me.
- c. Respect your parents.
- d. Let us go to a hill station.

- iv. Optative Sentences:** Sentences which express wishes, desires or prayers are called Optative sentences. An exclamatory mark (!) is always put at the end of such a sentence.

Examples:

- a. May you live long!
- b. God save the country!

- v. Exclamatory Sentences:** Sentences which express sudden feelings or emotions of joy, sorrow, amusement, appreciation, etc. are called Exclamatory Sentences. They end with an exclamatory mark (!). Sometimes, Exclamatory Sentences may be written without the subject and the verb.

Examples:

- a. Hurrah! We have won the match.
- b. What a nice person he is!
- c. Good!

(Note: All the sentences should begin with a Capital Letter and end with an appropriate punctuation mark.)
