

Worksheet – PaTTAN Session on Building Syntactic Competence to Enhance
Reading Comprehension

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How Words Express Meaning	Name	Answer What Questions?
person, place, thing, idea		who, what
substitutes for a noun		who, what
action or state of being		is doing, being what?
describing word		what kind, how many
how an action is done		how, in what way?
the relationship of a substantive word to a verb, adjective, or noun		how, when, where
connects phrases and clauses to each other		why, wherefore

SENTENCE BUILDER CHART					
How many? Which ones? What kind of?	Who, what?	Is doing, being, thinking, feeling?	To whom? For what? To what? With what?	What?	Where, when, why, how?
<i>adjective</i>	<i>subj.noun</i>	<i>verb</i>	<i>indirect object</i>	<i>direct object</i>	<i>prep. or adverbial phrase</i>

SORT YOUR PHRASES – Sentences from *Souder*

Noun phrases	Verb phrases	Prepositional phrases

Now she shut the door and put her basket on the tin-topped table.

The creature beds down with the wound against a heap of oak leaves.

The leaves make a poultice that draws out the poison and heals the wound with a hard brown scab.

The boy could see that her eyes were filled with hurt.

SORTING PHRASES, DEPENDENT CLAUSES, INDEPENDENT CLAUSES

Phrases	Dependent Clauses	Independent Clauses

MASTERPIECE SENTENCES – COMPOSITION

1. Begin with the kernel subject and predicate. “Teachers work.”
2. Paint the predicate.
3. Move clauses.
4. Paint the subject.
5. Substitute words.
6. Polish the sentence.

References

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