

Sentence Structure

It is essential that you write proper sentences, in all of your work, as your work will not read well if the sentences are not constructed in a grammatical form.

Simple Sentences:

Have a main subject and a verb or adjective.

eg. The woman was happy

The man ate an apple

The positioning of your words needs to be precise as sometimes by using the same words but in a different order you can alter the meaning of your sentence.

eg. "The tutor marked an essay quickly."

"The tutor quickly marked an essay."

The second sentence implies that the tutor marked the essay quickly, so that they could move onto something else.

Complex Sentences:

A complex sentence is constructed of clauses. All clauses have a subject and a main verb (doing word), but do not however always make a complete, independent sentence.

"The man was frightened, because the dog looked vicious."

Main clause.

Subordinate clause

The subordinate clause cannot stand alone as a simple sentence, something else needs to be said.

Ensure that you use the correct verb tense, such as:

The past: was, were

The present: are, is

Word Order:

It is essential that you consider your word order to ensure that you have expressed your thoughts and ideas accurately. It may help to read your work out loud, when proof reading.

eg. There are three different images that these sentences can give rise to:

1. Even Bert offered money.
2. Bert even offered money.
3. Bert offered even money.

Verbs singular and plural forms:

Verbs are usually spelt differently within their singular and plural forms and this needs to be remembered when writing your assignment.

eg. "The students were given an assignment on climate change."

subject verb

"The student was given an assignment on climate change."

subject verb

