

Transcript in English

Video: Grammar “Noticing Language”

So it's some basic grammar or things about how to know what you're really trying to say are important for you to know.

Let's look at the basic structure of an English sentence. Here's an example of the simplest sentence you can get. (He runs). There are just two words. One of them is the subject and the other one is the verb. That's what you need to have to have a sentence: a subject and a verb. That's it. It can be just two words.

The **verb** tells you what the subject did, is doing, or will do.

The **subject** will most frequently be a person or animal, an object or a place. For example: “New York rocks” or “Robots help”

Here are some more examples of simple sentences:

- “Trees grow”
- “People sleep”
- “Jan laughs”
- “John talks”

Now this is all very good, but much of our language is not that simple.

We often want to add meaning and we add meaning to a verb by using the type of word called **an adverb**.

Let's look at this one (He runs **quickly**), so “quickly” is an adverb because it adds meaning to the verb “runs”.

It tells you how the person is running, gives you a full of representation of what is happening, and by the word representation we mean the image you get in your mind, the sounds you imagine, the feelings that is the body sensations you get, and sometimes smells and tastes, so collectively everything you think of in your imagination.

In this example, the person is “running **quickly**” which is a very different representation, for example, then saying “he runs **slowly**” or “he runs **awkwardly**” or “he runs **stylishly**”

That is what happens in your imagination as a result of putting an adverb into the example sentence as we saw earlier:

- “Trees grow slowly”
- “People sleep soundly”
- “Jan laughs loudly”
- “John talks quietly”

Now, looking at Garnett “he runs quickly”, there are degrees of being quick even, notice how your image and sense of running guy changes when we add “very” for example.

The word “very” is also an adverb and it shows that an adverb can add meaning not only to a verb but also to another adverb.

Let's add some more meaning to those sentences we saw earlier and once again notice what happens in your imagination when we add the extra description:

- “Trees grow **quite** slowly” (quite is an adverb)
- “People sleep **really** soundly” (Really and soundly are both adverbs)
- “Jan laughs **extraordinarily** loudly” and
- “John talks **extremely** quietly”