

Understanding English Sentence Structure

To write good English, you must know how to write correct sentences.

Um im schriftlichen Englisch gut zu sein, must du über den englischen Satzbau Bescheid wissen.

FIRST RULE (*Erste Regel*):

subject	verb(s)	object
I	Speak	English
I	can speak	English

Write positive sentences. Underline the subject in red, the verb in green, and the object in blue.

Bitte schreibe ganze Sätze. Unterstreiche das Subjekt in rot, das Verb in grün und das Objekt in blau.

like / I / you	
French / I / speak	
hates / spiders/ he	
buy / milk / he / wants to	
feed / you / my / cat / can	
sister / has / my / got / a dog	
must / the book / read / you	

SECOND RULE (*Zweite Regel*):

- Please put time expressions at the end. / *Bitte setze Zeitangaben an den Schluß.*

- Do not forget: place before time. / *Vergiß nicht: Ort kommt vor der Zeit.*

Subject	Verb	Object	Place	Time
I	have	breakfast	in the kitchen.	

Please write into the table. / *Bitte fülle die Tabelle aus.*

1. is swimming / My friend / in the pool
2. handball / in the gym / they / every Monday / play
3. Peter / every Saturday / at home / watches / TV
4. My parents / to the football pitch / are walking / on Monday.

Capital (= big) letters

What do we need to write with big letters? *Was müssen wir alles groß schreiben?*

Rule (Regel)	Example (Beispiel)
<p>The first words of a sentence. <i>Das erste Wort eines jeden Satzes.</i></p>	<p><u>I</u> go home.</p>
<p>The pronoun "I" <i>Das Pronomen "I"</i></p>	<p>The last English test <u>I</u> wrote was good.</p>
<p>Names of people (1), places (2), organizations (3), languages (4) <i>Namen von Menschen (1), Orten (2), Organisationen (3), Sprachen (4)</i></p>	<p><u>T</u>homas (1) <u>T</u>rafalgar <u>S</u>quare (2) <u>U</u>nited <u>N</u>ations (3) <u>G</u>erman (4)</p>
<p>Days of the week (1), the months of the year (2), and holidays (3). <i>Wochentage (1), Monate (2) und Feiertage (3)</i></p> <p>Not the seasons used generally. <i>Jahreszeiten werden – bei allgemeiner Verwendung – klein geschrieben.</i></p>	<p><u>F</u>riday (1) <u>O</u>ctober (2) <u>C</u>hristmas (3)</p> <p>winter / spring</p>
<p>Trademarks <i>Markenbezeichnungen</i></p>	<p><u>P</u>epsi <u>H</u>onda <u>M</u>icrosoft <u>W</u>ord</p>
<p>Only capitalize "mom" and "dad" when you are talking about them as names. <i>Mum und Dad werden nur großgeschrieben, wenn sie als Anrede (Namensersatz) benutzt werden – nicht hingegen bei Allgemeingebrauch.</i></p>	<p>This is my mom.</p> <p>“John, do you know where my <u>M</u>om is?”</p>

Please correct the mistakes in the following sentences. / Bitte verbessere die Fehler in den Sätzen.

1. Next sunday, i am going to Peter´s place.
2. I asked rober, peter, and anne.
3. Last year, my parents took me to disney world for my birthday party.
4. At school, I learn english and german.
5. Valentine´s day is on monday, February 14th.
6. My mother is from england. My father comes from australia.
7. I have seen the president last july.

in a little house in spain lives a girl called amanda. she has two sisters, lisa and sally, and one brother called fred.

amanda lives in barcelona in spain, which is in europe. she has a pen pal called brian who lives in england. she likes to write to brian so she can practice her english. brian does not know very much spanish, but he is learning a few words. amanda would like to go visit brian in london when she is older. most of all she would like to visit new york.

amanda has a small dog called pete. he is a dachshund. when she takes pete to the park she likes to throw him a ball.

there is a famous park in barcelona called park guell. the park has houses that look like they come from the hansel and gretel story.

amanda and pete like it very much.