**TIPS TO HELP YOU**

**IDENTIFY THE PARTS OF A SENTENCE**

The information below will tell you how to identify the following parts of the sentence: subject, verb, direct object, indirect object, predicate noun (nominative), and predicate adjective.

**SUBJECT**
To find the subject, first find the verb and ask yourself *who* or *what*. The answer gives you the subject.

Example: *The instructor gave us a quiz today.*  
Explanation: Gave is the verb since it names the action. Who or what gave?  
The instructor gave, so *instructor* is the subject.

**VERB**
To find the verb, ask yourself *what is the subject doing* or *what is happening to the subject*.  
The verb expresses action in the sentence.

Example: *The instructor gave us a quiz.*  
Explanation: The instructor did what? The instructor gave, so *gave* is the verb.

The verb may be transitive (requiring an object to complete the thought) or intransitive (requiring no object for completeness).

Transitive: *She sold her car.*  
Intransitive: *He smiled.*

The verb may be a linking verb which links the subject to a complement (a word that renames or describes the subject and shows no action).

Examples: *He is happy.*  
*She feels angry.*  
*This looks bad.*  
*It is she.*

**TRANSITIVE VERB**
Transitive verbs require an object to complete the sentence. Objects can be *direct* or *indirect*.  
To find the *direct object*, find the subject and the verb; then, use them in a question ending with *whom* or *what*.

Example: *Julia quietly took his hand.*  
Direct object: *hand*

To find the *indirect object*, find the subject and the verb; then, use them in a question ending with *to whom* or *for whom*.

Example: *Linda gave Felipe a new sweater.*  
Explanation: Linda gave what? *sweater.* (direct object)  
Linda gave sweater *to whom?* *Felipe.* (indirect object)
**LINKING VERB**

Linking verbs relate the subject complement (a word that renames or describes the subject) to the subject. Linking verbs will be followed by a complement in the form of a *predicate noun* or *predicate adjective*.

The *predicate noun* names (or identifies) the subject.

Example: *My brother is the new captain of the team.*
Explanation: *Captain* is the predicate noun because it names the subject, *brother*.

The *predicate adjective* describes the subject.

Example: *My quiz was very difficult.*
Explanation: *Difficult* describes the subject, *quiz*.

**PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER**

Read the sentences below and identify all *subjects, verbs, direct objects, indirect objects, predicate nouns*, and *predicate adjectives*.

Example: *Will you hand me that book?*

1. Chili with beans tastes very spicy.
2. Where did you put that book?
3. One of the scientists is an expert.
4. The magazine paid him a thousand dollars for the story.
5. Was the reaction of the audience favorable?
6. You must tell father the truth.
7. Have you sent the newspaper a picture of Barbara?
8. This hybrid rose smells sweet.
10. The man in the picture might have been Boris.