**Objectives:**

In this lesson, students will:

* Recognize four basic sentence patterns.
* Identify the subject and predicate of a basic sentence.
* Demonstrate the ability to write the four basic sentence patterns.
* The point of this lesson is not to write baby sentences: The point is to capture the essence of something by describing it with just the essential parts of the English sentence.

**Competency:**

Basic Parts of Any Sentence: Subject / Predicate

Birds fly.

Basic Sentence Patterns:

1. N + V Birds sing.

2. N + V + N Birds make melody.

3A. N + LV + N Kangaroos are marsupials.

3B. N + LV + Adj Pandas are furry.

What are these basic sentences good for?

Crafting basic sentences through patterns gives us a quite remarkably improved sensitivity to sentence structure, and leads to all sorts of other skills at the application level such as topic sentences, clearer definitions, and better organization.

But if these weren’t enough, each of the sentence patterns is particularly handy for various purposes that writers have.

Patterns one and two are good for stripping away non-essentials in order to capture what’s really important about something:

*Pattern One Pattern Two*

*I came. Parent hits child.*

*I saw. Child hits playmate.*

*I conquered. Humanity hits bottom.*

Pattern threes are good for stating claims, statements that we would like other people to believe:

*Three A – The show is a sensation.*

*Three B – The show is sensational.*