

## Rules of Syntax Cheat Sheet

### All Syntactic Patterns

In total, there are 7 syntactic patterns, but all must contain at least a subject (S) and a verb (V). Other elements include a direct object (O), indirect object (IO), complement (C), and adverbial (A).

1. **S + V:** Alicia laughed.
2. **S + V + O:** Alicia caught the ball.
3. **S + V + C:** Alicia is happy.
4. **S + V + C:** Alicia plays well.
5. **S + V + IO + O:** Alicia passed Mark the ball.
6. **S + V + O + C:** Alicia got her shoes muddy.
7. **S + V + O + A:** Alicia wrote her number on the card.

### Statements

The majority of sentences are statements that carry a declarative structure. In most of these sentences, the clause contains a subject, and the subject precedes a verb.

**Example:** Mark caught the ball.

### Questions

Questions are used to elicit information. They carry an interrogative structure.

#### Questions with Inflection

Some questions take the structure of a declarative sentence. They still end with a question mark, and one's tone usually rises at the end to indicate that the statement is a question.

**Example:** You're going to Italy next month?

#### Tag Questions

In tag questions, the interrogative inversion appears at the end of the statement.

**Example:** You studied for the exam, didn't you?

#### Exclamatory Questions

With exclamatory questions, the interrogative structure is present, but one's tone usually falls at the end.

**Example:** How great is this!

### Directives

Directives, also known as imperatives or commands, are sentences that instruct others to do something.

**Example:** Do your homework!