

Steps for Logical Analysis of Sentences

nota bene: These guidelines, as well as the Grammatical Progression Chart, are intended as preliminary resources for teachers who are eager to implement the Classical Grammar series before its publication and have already led their students through Classical Grammar I. They are not intended to be definitive in every detail but will point teachers in the right direction and allow them already to align their students' grammar work with the Language Arts reform currently underway.

Teachers are encouraged to take from these guidelines what they are able to apply - even within the grammar system actually in use in their 5-8 classroom - but should be careful not to introduce notions which remain unclear to them, in order to avoid confusion for the students.

1. Copy the sentence.
2. Handling clauses:
 - a. Underline the subjects once and the verbs twice for every clause.
 - b. Write D.O. over the direct object of any verbs in the clauses.
 - c. Draw a cross under coordinate conjunctions linking independent (or principal) clauses. Frame with a box all subordinate conjunctions, relative pronouns or other conjunctive elements introducing clauses.
 - d. Put the clauses into brackets, nesting subordinate clauses within their principal clauses. Exclude from clause brackets coordinate conjunctions connecting independent (or principal) clauses. Include subordinate conjunctions or relative pronouns within clause brackets.
 - e. Label each clause with a Roman numeral, above and slightly to the right of the opening bracket.
3. Handling phrases:
 - a. Put the phrases into parentheses, nesting phrases which modify elements of another phrase.
 - b. Label each phrase with a lowercase letter, above and slightly to the right of the opening parenthesis.
4. State the form (simple, complex, compound) and use (declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory) of the entire sentence, and whether the compound sentence unites simple sentences, complex sentences, or simple and complex sentences.
5. Analyze the clauses and then the phrases in a chart specifying Nature, Form and Office of the clause or phrase, using the labels given in the sentence.
6. Diagram the sentence.
7. Parse any simple element within the sentence according to its parsing order.

I a II III b
[The posture (of her head) was high,] and [her body, [which] was visibly informed (by an immortal
+
c D.O. IV
spirit,)] had (in its carriage) a large, a regal, an uplifted bearing [which turns common every other

V DO
sight [[that] has encountered me.]]

This is a compound declarative sentence, uniting a simple and a complex sentence.