

CLAUSE PATTERNS
CONSTITUTIVE / OBLIGATORY AND OPTIONAL CLAUSE ELEMENTS
Clause patterns with a linking verb
Clause patterns with a full (lexical) verb

Syntactic-semantic classification of verbs - intransitive, transitive and copular:

1. **INTRANSITIVE** – do **NOT** take a _____ object, 2 clause types/patterns:

1. _____ *laugh, run, fall, apologize*
2. _____ *He is in the garden. He lives in London.*

2. **TRANSITIVE** – are followed by an _____

a) _____ **transitive verbs** – require a _____ object, S-V-O

He carried a bag. We enjoyed the film. We won the match.

He said it / that she was happy. / that he thought she was happy.

He said it yesterday. He said it because he likes you. He said it carefully.

b) _____ **transitive verbs** – require 2 objects – they are of 2 types:

1. S-V-Oi-Od *He gave me a present.*
2. S-V-O-Opred *I thanked him for the present.*

c) _____ **transitive**

1. S-V-O-Co *I found the film interesting.*
2. S-V-O-A *I left the key in the lock.*

3. **COPULAR**

- the verb is called _____ or _____

- the main copular verb is _____

- clause pattern is _____

a) QUALIFYING – BE + Cs = ADJ b) CLASSIFYING – BE + Cs = NOUN

c) IDENTIFYING – BE + Cs = NOUN d) ACTIONAL/EVENTIVE (dějová)

e) EXISTENTIAL, EXISTENTIAL-LOCATIVE f) POSSESSIVE

1. *He is an early riser. (rises early) / I am not a big eater.*
2. *The highest mountain of Great Britain is Snowdon. / I saw a man walking towards me; for a moment I thought he was a friend of mine.*
3. *My decision is final. The film was interesting. / Their daughter is a pretty girl. / Tom is a clever boy. / Hers was a fruitful life (= Her life was fruitful) / The job is an interesting one (= The job is interesting)*

HANDOUT 2

4. *He is a teacher. His father was a famous collector. / He used to be a friend of mine. / I thought he was a friend of mine but he let me down.*
5. *There is no exception. / There is a girl in the waiting-room.*
6. *She has blue eyes.*

I.BE / CURRENT copulas:

- a) *look, feel, smell, taste, sound*
- b) *seem, appear, prove, turn out*
- c) *remain, stay, keep, go, continue, stand, rest*

II.BECOME / RESULTING copulas: *become, turn, grow, get, go, come, fall*

Determine whether the verbs are used as copulas or full/lexical verbs (8.6):

1. Our effort seemed useless.
2. I feel fine. The fabric feels soft. He felt a sudden stab of pain in his chest.
3. The seam came unstitched. He came home very tired.
4. Let's give it a try. Let's give him a present.
5. The fish smells, throw it away. The dinner smells delicious.
6. You can keep the book, if you like. They kept talking.
7. They grow potatoes. I'm growing old.
8. He proved his point. The task proved more difficult than we'd thought.

Identify types of lex. verbs (8.62.3, 8.62.5): (intransitive, transitive, mono-, di-, complex-transitive, reflexive; causative)

1. He walked the dog. We walked swiftly.
2. I washed and shaved. I washed the dishes.
3. She hurt herself. My head hurts.
4. The clothes dried in the sun. She tried to dry herself with a piece of cloth.
5. We can't content ourselves with this state of things.
6. He got into trouble. He got himself into trouble.
7. He felled his opponent in the first round.
8. In this way he had laid the foundation of his future success.

HANDOUT 2

VALENCY

optional vs obligatory clause elements

I am eating. vs. *I am eating my lunch.* *He said it.* vs. *He said it yesterday.*
He broke the window with a rock.

Subject, Verb, Object, Complement (Cs, Co), Adverbial, Modifier, Apposition, verbless adverbial clause (= doplněk podmětu)

Which elements are obligatory / optional in English sentence?

➤ OBLIGATORY: _____

➤ EITHER OPTIONAL or OBLIGATORY (depending on the valency of the verb):

➤ OPTIONAL: _____

What is a clause pattern?

8 clause types: S-V S-V-Cs S-V-O S-V-Oi-Od S-V-O-Oprep S-V-A
S-V-O-A S-V-O-Co

1. _____ *He laughed.*
2. _____ *Mary is a teacher.*
3. _____ *He carried the bag. He laughed at me.*
4. _____ *She gave me a book.*
5. _____ *I accused him of lying.*
6. _____ *Peter is in the garden.*
7. _____ *I put the book on the table.*
8. _____ *I consider him a genius.*

Practice – determine clause patterns:

1. It was raining.	1. She lives in New York.
2. He died.	2. Elizabeth put the book on the shelf.
3. He blamed his teacher for his failure.	3. She is a singer-songwriter.
4. She loved him.	4. She is calm.
5. He gave me a book.	5. I consider her my best friend.

HANDOUT 2

NOTE: Some verbs can be used both transitively and intransitively and some can be used as copulas as well and thus they may appear in different clause types:

TURN – *He turned.* _____
He turned a page. _____
He turned pale. _____

GET – *He got a present.* _____ *He got her a present.* _____
He got angry. _____ *He got through the window.* _____
I got my shoes wet. _____ *He got himself into trouble.* _____

TASK: Analyze the sentences below for clause patterns, obligatory and optional clause elements

1. Aren't children awful when they try to be witty?
2. The building on your left is the Museum of Medieval Art; the lower building on your right is a former market hall, turned into exhibition rooms.
3. I am a light sleeper, and sometimes I don't fall asleep easily.
4. a. Susan sounds a most interesting girl.
b. Susan knows a most interesting girl.
5. a. You don't want to appear a fool, do you?
b. When will your new novel appear?
c. The train appeared fast.
6. a. Why does he look so odd? / Why does he look so oddly?
b. The child looked backward. / The child looked backwards.
c. We looked but saw nothing.
d. I happened to be looking another way.
e. I look a perfect fright in this hat.
7. a. She doesn't feel quite herself today.
b. He feels confident of success.
c. Please feel free to call on us whenever you like.
d. I don't feel like a big meal.
e. He felt insulted. / He felt the insult keenly
f. The doctor felt my pulse.
g. They were feeling their way towards an agreement.
h. He felt his heart beat(ing) violently.
8. a. At what height are we flying?
b. Have you ever flown across the Atlantic?
c. During the Easter weekend five thousand passengers were flown to Paris.
d. The boy flew down the road.
e. He has flown into black rage.
f. He watched the children flying kites.
g. They had to fly the country.
9. a. He rarely fails to keep his appointments.
b. Can't you keep the children quiet for a while?
c. Inclement weather kept us indoors.
d. I hope you are keeping well.
e. Traffic in Britain keeps to the left.
f. Will the meat keep till tomorrow?
g. This news will keep.
10. I nosed the car into the street.

HANDOUT 2

11. a. Most of us are working this evening.
b. Most of us are dreading this evening.
- Translation into Czech important!
12. a. Harry married young.
b. He married both his wives abroad.
c. He married both his daughters to rich men.
d. Which priest married them?
13. a. She made the boys some tea and scones.
b. She made the oldest boy her deputy.
c. She'll make the boys an excellent teacher.
14. a. She called him a stuffed shirt.
b. She called him a taxi.
c. Call me Joe.

What you should know:

1. What a clause pattern is.
2. What valency is.
3. Which elements in English sentences are optional and which obligatory.
4. 8 clause types
5. Which verbs are intransitive, transitive, copular and how it relates to clause patterns.
6. What the main semantic roles are.