Lesson 9: Try out a Period

TRANSCRIPT

HOOK 1

Hey, writers. It's Amy.

Last week, I went to the zoo. When I came home, I posted the photos and videos I took at the zoo online to show my friends. I labeled each one with a word that said what was in the photo, like an animal, person, place, or thing.

Words for animals, people, places, and things are called nouns.

I like to remember what a noun is by doing this: A noun is an animal, a person, a place, or a thing. Try that with me. A noun is an animal, a person, a place, or a thing.

I also wrote one word for what each animal was doing. Words that say what something does are called verbs.

A verb is an action word. I like to remember it by doing this: A verb is an action word. Give that a try. A verb is an action word.

So I labeled each video with a noun, like elephant, and a verb, like eats. Then I put the noun and verb together to make a sentence.

A sentence collects words together to tell a story or share an idea. Every sentence has at least one noun and one verb.

One way to make a short sentence is to start with the word "The," then add a noun, then add a verb. Like for this picture. I started with the word "The," then I added the noun "parrot," and then added the matching verb "flies."

The parrot flies. That's a sentence. But here's a question: How do you know when a sentence is over? When a person is speaking, we know their sentence is over because they... well, stopped talking. But how do we know a sentence is over when we write it down?

Well, allow me to introduce a hugely important, ridiculously powerful writing tool. Drumroll, please.

Where is it? I don't see it. Oh, wait. There it is. Right here.

This black dot is a hugely important, ridiculously powerful writing tool. Seriously. It's called a period. When you add a period to the end of a sentence, that means the sentence is over.

Try this: A period means a sentence ends. Again, a period means a sentence ends. One more time. A period means a sentence ends.

Let's try out the power of the period ourselves.

In today's lesson, we're going to put periods at the end of complete sentences. But to do that, we're going to have to figure out whether a bunch of words are a complete sentence or not.

Remember, a complete sentence needs at least one noun and one verb. A noun is an animal, a person, a place, or a thing, and a verb is an action word.

If a sentence has a noun and a verb, it's a complete sentence, so it gets a period at the end. If it does not have a noun and a verb, the sentence isn't over yet, so it does not get a period.

Ready? We'll get you started, step by step.

STEP 1

These words say "The monkey." If you think you should put a period here, put up your hand like this.

If you think you should not put a period here, make an x with your hands, like this.

STEP 2

No, it does not get a period. "The monkey" isn't a sentence yet. It has a noun, monkey, but there's no verb, no action word. We don't know what the monkey is doing.

This sentence isn't over yet, so it does not get a period yet.

How about these words? This says "The monkey swings."

If you think you should put a period here, put up your hand like this. If you think you should not put a period here, make an x with your hands, like this.

STEP 3

Yes, this is a complete sentence. It has a noun, monkey, that's the animal, person, place, or thing in the sentence. And it has a verb, swings, that's the action word.

This is a complete sentence, so we need to put a period at the end.

Let's try another one. This says "Climbs."

If you think you should put a period here, put up your hand like this. If you think you should not put a period here, make an x with your hands, like this.

STEP 4

No, "Climbs" isn't a complete sentence yet. "Climbs" is a verb, an action word, but there's no noun, no animal, person, place, or thing. We don't know who is doing the climbing. This is not a complete sentence. It does not get a period yet.

Here's another. This says "The bear climbs." Should we put a period at the end of this? If you think we should put a period here, put up your hand like this. If you think we should not put a period here, make an x with your hands, like this.

STEP 5

Yes, this is a complete sentence. It has a noun, bear, that's the animal, person, place, or thing in the sentence. And it has a verb, climbs, that's the action word.

This is a complete sentence, so we need to put a period at the end.

WRAP UP

Great work! You added periods to the end of all the complete sentences.

Now they're all ready to go, and so are you. So put one more period on the end of this lesson. The writers wrote, "period."

Thanks for your help. See you next time, writers.