

Helpful Questions for doing Sentence Flow

Some helpful questions to ask in finding each of the items in making a sentence flow
Questions are in *italics* for each appropriate step.

A. Divide the Sentences and Clauses

a. Find the Main Verbs

“What is the action in this sentence?”, “What is happening?”

Note: copulative propositions have forms of the verb “to be”. In this case, you would ask *“what exists?”, “what is equated with something else?”*

b. Divide into sentences/propositions

“Where does this idea begin?”, “Where does this idea end?”, “Do these words go with this verbal action? Or with the other?”

c. Divide any dependent clauses

“Does this make sense on its own if I say it out loud?” “Does this need to be connected with another proposition to give the full meaning?”

B. Display the main sentences

a. List the main verbs

See above.

b. List the subject of each verb

“Who/What is doing the action of this proposition?”, “Who/What is (verb)-ing?”

c. List the object(s) of each verb (if there are objects)

“Who/What is receiving the action of this proposition?”, “Whom/What is (subject) (verb)-ing?”

d. Display the Modifiers in the proper position under what it modifies

Test each modifier with these questions. If it answers these questions, then it is this type and function of modifier.

i. Adjectives

“What kind of (noun) is it?”

ii. Adverbs

“How is (subject) (verb)-ing?”

iii. Prepositional Phrases

1. If it modifies a noun – *“What kind of (noun) is it?”*

2. If it modifies a verb - *“How/where/when is (subject) (verb)-ing?”*