

Royal Fireworks Language Arts by Michael Clay Thompson

# 4PRACTICE I

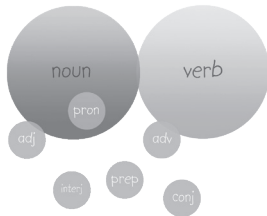
One Hundred Four-Level Analysis Practice Sentences

*Second Edition*

A Supplement to *The Magic Lens I*, *The Word Within the Word I*, and *Poetry and Humanity*

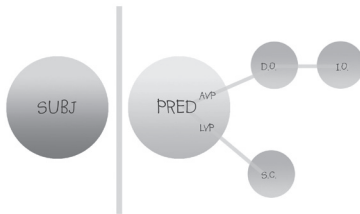
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## 8 Parts of Speech

noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, adverb, conjunction, preposition, interjection



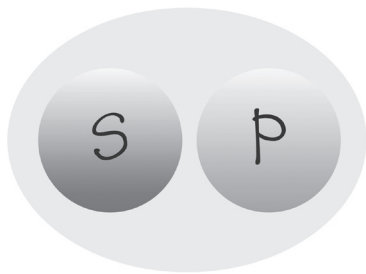
## 5 Parts of Sentence

subject, predicate, direct object, indirect object, subject complement



## Phrases

prepositional phrase, appositive phrase, verbal phrases



## Clauses

independent clause, dependent clause

## Notes to Students

*Is grammar really important? Is it important for me to learn intellectual words that I never hear on television or in conversation? What is the point of studying poetry if I have no intention of becoming a poet? Why should I read old classic novels that were written a century or even more ago? Why do I need to learn about the rules of correct writing if I can make myself understood anyway?*

In the back of your mind, you may have wondered about some of these questions—and they are good and important questions—all of your life. The truth is that these different areas of formal language study are important—so important that it is difficult to put it into words. Let’s try to explain it anyway because you deserve no less.

Language is one of the core abilities in human experience. Not only is language the core of all academic content, because history and science and all other subjects are conducted in language, but language is in many ways the core of all human interaction. You will submit your essays in all of your classes in high school, college, and graduate school in formal English, and if you are great at language, you will be a better student in every subject. But you will also speak to your family, your loved ones, your friends, and your professional colleagues in language, and all of these relationships will benefit from your ability to find words for what you think and to express your ideas in ways that help other people understand you.

The purpose of this book is to pull all of the different sides of formal language study together into a single vision to show you how all of them not only work together but become parts of the same thing, just like hands and hearts and voices and dreams are all part of a person.

**Practice:** This book presents a collection of four-level analysis sentences for year-long practice and improvement in a sequence of graduated difficulty that will let you begin with the basics and work up through increasing complexity.

**Unification in the Writing Process:** One of the purposes of this practice book is to overcome the damaging misconception that the different aspects of language arts are separate and disconnected. You may think of grammar as a useless tedium, or that vocabulary and grammar have nothing to do with each other, or that poetic technique is of interest only to poets, or that none of these are relevant to writing. These pages will give you a permanent vision of how the writing process combines grammar, vocabulary, and poetics into a single, coherent system of communication. To write, you need everything.

In each sentence you will see all four levels of grammar, you will see the words or stems from *The Word Within the Word I*, and you will see an element of poetics that you have encountered in *Poetry and Humanity*. It all comes together on each page, just as it does in the actual process of writing.

**Flexibility:** *4Practice I* has been prepared with the goals of maximum simplicity and flexibility in mind. It is organized in the most straightforward and uncomplicated form possible: one hundred sentences of four-level analysis, generally beginning with the least difficult sentences, and roughly grouped into four chapters of twenty-five sentences each for the four levels of grammar. The first twenty-five sentences (Chapter One) feature parts of speech, the second chapter features the parts of sentence, the third the phrases, and the fourth the clauses. All four chapters, however, analyze all four levels. There is no expectation that every sentence in the book be done or that they be done in the precise order that they appear. Rather, this is a collection you can draw from freely and creatively to enhance and continue the learning initiated in *The Magic Lens I* and *The Word Within the Word I*.

***The Word Within the Word I:*** If you are using *The Word Within the Word I* in your studies, you will find that the vocabulary in this book exactly follows the *Word* lists, with each list in that book being the source of three sentences/vocabulary words in this book. In other words, you could do three of these pages for each lesson of *The Word Within the Word I*. The benefit here is that you have a clear example of usage that will help you learn to use your vocabulary correctly.

**Written Assignments:** On each page of this book, you will see a sentence with four blank lines below it. These lines represent the four levels of traditional grammar: the parts of speech, the parts of sentence, phrases, and clauses. Each level is important in your ability to write correctly.

Study the sentence, and then write the abbreviations for the parts of speech below each word in the first line, the parts of sentence in the second, phrases in the third, and clauses in the fourth. For phrases and clauses, make little lines to show where the phrase or clause begins and ends. Notice that every word is a part of speech, but only some words are a part of sentence. Each answer should be written straight down from its target.

The abbreviations used in *4Practice I* are:

### Parts of Speech

n.	noun
pron.	pronoun
adj.	adjective
v.	verb
adv.	adverb
prep.	preposition
conj.	conjunction
interj.	interjection

### Parts of Sentence

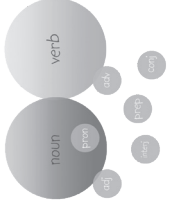
subj.	subject
AVP	action verb predicate
LVP	linking verb predicate
BVP	being verb predicate
D.O.	direct object
I.O.	indirect object
S.C.	subject complement
O.C.	object complement

### Phrases

prep.	prepositional (phrase)
app.	appositive (phrase)
ger.	gerund (phrase)
par.	participial (phrase)
inf.	infinitive (phrase)

### Clauses

indep.	independent (clause)
dep.	dependent (clause)
I	independent clause
D	dependent clause
,cc	comma and coordinating conjunction



## Sentence 10

*The Aeneid*, Virgil's *magnum opus*, was the *cinéma vérité* of ancient Rome.

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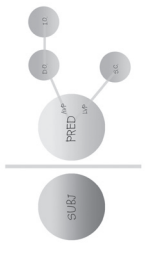
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**Grammar:**

**Vocabulary:**

**Poetics:**

**Writing:**



### Sentence 30

After Portia enunciated her hope, the obsessed Brutus refused to abrogate his plot.

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**Grammar:**

**Vocabulary:**

**Poetics:**

**Writing:**



## Sentence 60

The **anthropomorphic** gods loved influencing the **bellicose** Greeks' lives.

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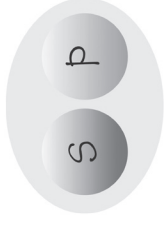
**Grammar:**

**Vocabulary:**

**Poetics:**

**Writing:**





## Sentence 80

We climbed the path and soon heard the **euphoric** music of the Dionysian dithyramb.

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**Grammar:**

**Vocabulary:**

**Poetics:**

**Writing:**