Types of Verbs Examples

Linking Verbs

A <u>linking verb</u> is
- **not** an action verb
- **not** transitive (no d.o.)

It expresses a <u>state or a condition</u>.

It is followed by:
- a noun-the predicate nominative, PN
- an adjective-the predicate adjective, PA

Both the PN and PA describe the subject.
- the PN renames the subject
- the PA describes the subject

"**be**" - the most common linking verb.

S | linking verb **V** \ **predicate adj.** \ **predicate nom.**
prep + obj
(adverbial function)

<u>Genesis 2:1a</u>

"The <u>earth</u> **was** a formless and desolate emptiness."

Q: *What* renames the subject - <u>the earth</u>?
A: a formless and desolate <u>emptiness</u> ←pred. nom.
            noun

The earth | <u>was</u> \ emptiness _____
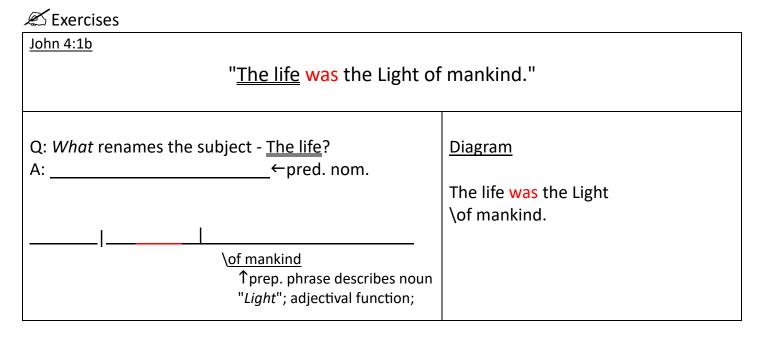   \a formless ᵃⁿᵈ \desolate

        ↑   2 adjectives   ↑
        of the noun "emptiness"

<u>Diagram</u>

The earth **was** a formless and desolate emptiness.

Example

Psalm 143:4

" My spirit feels weak within me."

Q: What word *describes* the subject - My spirit?
A: weak ← pred. adj.
 	
  My spirit | feels   \   weak
           \within me
        ↑prep. phrase tells "*where*" my spirit
        feels weak; adverbial function;
	Diagram
	
	My spirit feels weak
	\within me.

✍ Exercises

John 4:1b

"The life was the Light of mankind."

Q: *What* renames the subject - The life?
A: _____ ←pred. nom.
 	
_____|_____|_____
                \of mankind
            ↑prep. phrase describes noun
           "*Light*"; adjectival function;
	Diagram
	
	The life was the Light
	\of mankind.

Psalm 38:8

" I feel faint and badly crushed."

Q: What words *describe* the subject (I)? A: _____ ← pred. adj. _____|____feel____\ {and} _____ 	Diagram I feel faint and badly crushed.

Prepositional Phrase Used as an Adjective

Genesis 3:22

"<u>The man</u> has become like one of Us."

Q: *What* describes the subject - <u>The man</u>?

A: _____"like one of Us"_____ ←pred. adjective

                                           \like one

_____The man_____ | _____has become_____ \   ^ \of Us _____

Diagram

The man has become
\like one
\of Us.