Introduction to Arabic Grammar

Lesson 1

tasneeminstitute
ENRICHING THE SOUL

Arabic Grammar

- **Definition:** Arabic grammar نحو is the science that teaches us how to join a noun, verb and particle to form a correct sentence, as well as what the إعراب (condition) of the last letter of a word should be.

- **Subject Matter:** its subject matter is the كلمة (word) and كلام (sentence)

Arabic Grammar

- **Objective:**
  - To learn how to read, write and speak Arabic correctly, and to avoid making mistakes in this. For ex, زَيْدٌ , دَار , دَخَلَ and في. The science of "Nahw" teaches us how to put them together to form a correct sentence.
  - To use our Arabic skills to understand the Quran, hadith, and the supplications of the Ahlul Bayt.
  - To attain nearness to God.

Types of كَلِمَةٌ

- There are three types of words in Arabic:
  - 1. إِسْمٌ (noun)
  - 2. فِعْلٌ (verb)
  - 3. حَرْفٌ (particle)

Noun إِسْمٌ

- It is a word whose meaning can be understood without the need to combine it with another word

- It does not have any tense.

- It is the name of a person place or thing"
  - Ex. رَجُلٌ man
    الْبَيْتُ the house

- **Note: A noun can never have a تَنْوِيْنٌ (tanween) and an ال at the same time.**

Verb فِعْلٌ

- It is a word whose meaning can be understood without the need to combine it with another word.

- It has one of the three tenses: past, present or future.

- It denotes an action
  - Ex. ضَرَبَ Hit hit

    نَصَرَ   He helped

- **Note: A فِعْلٌ can never have تَنْوِينٌ (tanween) or an ال**

Particle حَرْفٌ

- It is a word whose meaning cannot be understood without combining it with a noun or a verb.
  - Ex. مِنْ from

    على on top

Types of Nouns أَقسَامُ الإِسم

اِسْمٌ is of three types:

1. جَامِدٌ – Primary *ism*: It is an اِسْمٌ which is neither derived from another word nor is any word derived from it.

    e.g.   فَرَسٌ   horse   بِنْتٌ   girl

2. مَصْدَرٌ – Root *ism*: It is an اِسْمٌ from which many words are derived.

    e.g.   ضَرْبٌ   to hit   نَصْرٌ   to help

3. مُشْتَقٌّ – Derived *ism*: It is an اِسْمٌ which is derived from a مَصْدَرٌ.

    e.g.   ضَارِبٌ   hitter   مَنْصُوْرٌ   one who is helped

Types of Verbs أقسـام الفعل

فِعْلٌ is of four types:

1.	اَلْمَاضِيْ	Past tense	e.g.	ضَرَبَ	He hit.
2.	اَلْمُضَارِعُ	Present and Future tense	e.g.	يَضْرِبُ	He is hitting or will hit.
3.	اَلْأَمْرُ	Positive Command/ Imperative	e.g.	اِضْرِبْ	Hit!
4.	اَلنَّهْيُ	Negative Command/ Prohibitive	e.g.	لَا تَضْرِبْ	Don't hit!

3. اَلْأَمْرُ Positive Command/ Imperative e.g. اِضْرِبْ Hit!

4. اَلنَّهْيُ Negative Command/ Prohibitive e.g. لَا تَضْرِبْ Don't hit!

Types of Particles أَقْسَامُ الْحُرُوفِ

أَقْسَامُ الْحَرْفِ – Types of particle

حَرْفٌ is of two types:

1. عَامِلٌ – Causative Particle: It is a حَرْفٌ which causes إِعْرَابٌ change in the word after it.

   e.g. زَيْدٌ فِي الْمَسْجِدِ Zayd is in the mosque.

2. غَيْرُ الْعَامِلِ – Non-Causative: It is a حَرْفٌ which does not cause إِعْرَابٌ change in the word after it.

   e.g. ثُمَّ then وَ and

Types of Sentences

Types of sentences

There are two types of sentences:

A. جُمْلَةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ: It is a sentence which has the possibility of being true or false.

B. جُمْلَةٌ إِنْشَائِيَّةٌ: It is a sentence which does not have the possibility of being true or false.

Types of Declarative Sentences أَقْسَام الجملة الخبرية

جُمْلَةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ is of two types:

1. <u>**جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ – Nominal sentence:**</u>

<u>**Definition:**</u> It is a sentence which begins with an اِسْمٌ.

- The second part of the sentence can be an اِسْمٌ or a فِعْلٌ.

- The first part of the sentence is called مُبْتَدَأٌ (subject) or مُسْنَدٌ إِلَيْهِ (the word about which information is being given).

- The second part of the sentence is called خَبَرٌ (predicate) or مُسْنَدٌ (the word giving the information).

- The مُبْتَدَأٌ is generally مَعْرِفَةٌ and the خَبَرٌ generally نَكِرَةٌ.

- Both parts (مُبْتَدَأٌ and خَبَرٌ) are مَرْفُوْعٌ.

Sentence Analysis

نَظِيْفٌ   اَلْبَيْتُ   The house is clean.

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ   =   خَبَرٌ   +   مُبْتَدَأٌ

قَوِيٌّ   طَوِيْلٌ   اَلرَّجُلُ   The man is tall and strong.

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ   =   خَبَرٌ 2   +   خَبَرٌ 1   +   مُبْتَدَأٌ

Note: A sentence may have more than one خَبَر

Types of Declarative Sentences أَقْسَام الحملة

الرَّجُلُ طَوِيلٌ قَوِيٌّ The man is tall and stro

الخبرية

مُبْتَدَأٌ + خَبَرٌ 1 + خَبَرٌ 2 = جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

2. جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ – **Verbal sentence:**

Definition: It is a sentence which begins with a فِعْلٌ.

- The first part of the sentence is called فِعْلٌ or مُسْنَدٌ.

- The second part of the sentence is called فَاعِلٌ or مُسْنَدٌ إِلَيْهِ and is always مَرْفُوعٌ.

زَيْدٌ جَلَسَ Zayd sat.

فِعْلٌ + فَاعِلٌ = جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

فِعْلٌ + فَاعِلٌ = جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

Sentence Analysis

Sentence Analysis

جَلَسَ   زَيْدٌ   Zayd sat.

فِعْلٌ + فَاعِلٌ = جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

Sentence Analysis

خَلَقَ   اللهُ   السَّمَاءَ   Allah created the sky.

فِعْلٌ + فَاعِلٌ + مَفْعُوْلٌ = جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

Types of Non-Declarative Sentences

جُمْلَةٌ إِنْشَائِيَّةٌ **is of ten types:**

1. اَلْأَمْرُ   Positive Command   e.g.   اِضْرِبْ   Hit!

2. اَلنَّهْيُ   Negative Command   e.g.   لَا تَضْرِبْ   Don't Hit!

3. اَلْاِسْتِفْهَامُ   Interrogative   e.g.   هَلْ ضَرَبَ زَيْدٌ؟   Did Zayd hit?

4. اَلتَّمَنِّي   Desire   e.g.   لَيْتَ الشَّبَابَ عَائِدٌ!   I wish youth would return.

   <u>Note:</u> لَيْتَ is generally used for something unattainable.

5. اَلتَّرَجِّيْ   Hope   e.g.   لَعَلَّ الْاِمْتِحَانَ سَهْلٌ   Hopefully, the examination will be easy.

6. اَلنِّدَاءُ   Exclamation   e.g.   يَا اَللهُ!   O Allah!

7.   Request/Offer   e.g.   Will you not come to me

4. اَلتَّمَنِّي   Desire   e.g.   لَيْتَ الشَّبَابَ عَائِدٌ!   I wish youth would return.

<u>Note:</u> لَيْتَ is generally used for something unattainable.

5. اَلتَّرَجِّي   Hope   e.g.   لَعَلَّ الِامْتِحَانَ سَهْلٌ   Hopefully, the examination will be easy.

<u>Note:</u> لَعَلَّ is generally used for something attainable.

6. اَلنِّدَاءُ   Exclamation   e.g.   يَا اَللّٰهُ!   O Allah!

7. اَلْعَرْضُ   Request/Offer   e.g.   أَلَا تَأْتِينِي فَأُعْطِيَكَ دِينَارًا؟   Will you not come to me so that I may give you a *dinar*?

<u>Note:</u> اَلْعَرْضُ is a mere request; no answer is anticipated.

8. اَلْقَسَمُ   Oath   e.g.   وَاللهِ!   By Allah!

9. اَلتَّعَجُّبُ   Amazement   e.g.   مَا أَحْسَنَ زَيْدًا!   How good Zayd is!

10. اَلْعُقُودُ   Transaction   e.g.   The seller says بِعْتُ هٰذَا الْكِتَابَ – I sold this book. and the buyer says اِشْتَرَيْتُهُ – I bought it.

<u>Note:</u> The sentences for اَلْعُقُودُ are in reality خَبَرِيَّةٌ. However, Islamic law recognizes them as إِنْشَائِيَّةٌ with respect to all contracts, and requires that they (past tense verbal sentences) be used to convey definiteness.

and the buyer says اِشْتَرَيْتُهُ – I bought it.

<u>Note:</u> The sentences for اَلْعُقُوْدُ are in reality خَبَرِيَّةٌ. However, Islamic law recognizes the إِنْشَائِيَّةٌ with respect to all contracts, and requires that they (past tense verbal sentence used to convey definiteness.

Sentence Analysis

<u>Sentence Analysis:</u>

Did Zayd hit?   هَلْ   ضَرَبَ   زَيْدٌ؟

حَرْفُ الْاِسْتِفْهَامِ   +   فِعْلٌ   +   فَاعِلٌ   =   جُمْلَةٌ إِنْشَائِيَّةٌ

iii. كَيْفَ حَالُكَ؟

i. يَا إِبْرَاهِيْمُ!

iv. لَا تَدْخُلْ

ii. اِسْمَعْ

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

Phrases are of five types:

1. اَلْمُرَكَّبُ التَّوْصِيْفِيُّ – **Descriptive phrase:** ○ It is a phrase in which one word describes the other.

   - The describing word is called صِفَةٌ.

   - The object being described is called مَوْصُوْفٌ.

   - The مَوْصُوْفٌ and صِفَةٌ must correspond in four things:

     1. إِعْرَابٌ.
     2. Gender i.e. being masculine or feminine.
     3. Number i.e. being singular, dual or plural.
     4. Being مَعْرِفَةٌ or نَكِرَةٌ.

   صَالِحٌ   رَجُلٌ   a righteous man

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

For example,

a righteous man	رَجُلٌ	صَالِحٌ
	مَوْصُوْفٌ	صِفَةٌ
the intelligent/wise girl	اَلْبِنْتُ	الْعَاقِلَةُ
	مَوْصُوْفٌ	صِفَةٌ

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

صِفَةٌ   مَوْصُوْفٌ

2. اَلْمُرَكَّبُ الْإِضَافِيُّ – **Possessive phrase:** It is a phrase in which the first word (مُضَافٌ) is attributed to the second one (مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ). In some cases, this means that the second word owns or possesses the first.

- The مُضَافٌ never gets an ال or a تَنْوِيْنٌ.
- The مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ is always مَجْرُوْرٌ.

e.g.

كِتَابُ   زَيْدٍ   Zayd's book

مُضَافٌ   مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

وَجَدْتُ   كِتَابَ   زَيْدٍ   I found Zayd's book.

أقسام المركب الناقص Types of Phrases
مُضَافٌ
مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

3. اَلْمُرَكَّبُ الْإِشَارِيُّ – **Demonstrative phrase:** It is a phrase in which one اِسْمٌ (اِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ) points towards another اِسْمٌ (مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ).

- The مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ must have an ال.

e.g.   <u>الرَّجُلُ</u>   **هٰذَا**   This man

                       اِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ   مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ

Note: If the مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ does not have an ال, it would be a complete sentence.

e.g.   <u>رَجُلٌ</u>   **هٰذَا**   This is a man.

           جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ   =   خَبَرٌ   +   مُبْتَدَأٌ

Note: If the مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ does not have an ال, it would be a complete sentence.

e.g. هٰذَا رَجُلٌ This is a man.

Types of Phrases أَقْسَام المركب

المركب الناقص = مُبْتَدَأ + خَبَرٌ = جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ

4. **اَلْمُرَكَّبُ الْعَدَدِيُّ** – **Numerical phrase:** It is a phrase in which two numerals are joined to form a single word (number). اَلْمُرَكَّبُ الْبِنَائِيُّ/

- A حَرْفٌ originally linked the two.

  e.g.   أَحَدَ عَشَرَ (eleven)   It was originally أَحَدٌ وَعَشْرٌ.

- This phrase is found only in numbers 11-19.

  e.g.   أَحَدَ عَشَرَ (11), اِثْنَا عَشَرَ (12), ثَلَاثَ عَشَرَ (13), ... تِسْعَ عَشَرَ (19).

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

- Both parts of this phrase will always be مَفْتُوْحٌ except the number 12 (إِثْنَا عَشَرَ).

    (حَالَةُ النَّصْبِ) رَأَيْتُ أَحَدَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   (حَالَةُ الرَّفْعِ) جَاءَ أَحَدَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   e.g.

    I saw eleven men.   Eleven men came.

    (حَالَةُ الْجَرِّ) مَرَرْتُ بِأَحَدَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا

    I passed by eleven men.

- As for number 12, its second part is always مَفْتُوْحٌ while the first part changes. Thus, in حَالَةُ الرَّفْعِ, it is written as إِثْنَا عَشَرَ, with an ا at the end of the first part. However, in حَالَةُ النَّصْبِ and حَالَةُ الْجَرِّ, the first part is given a ي in place of the ا (إِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ).

    (حَالَةُ النَّصْبِ) رَأَيْتُ اِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   (حَالَةُ الرَّفْعِ) جَاءَ اِثْنَا عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   e.g.

    I saw twelve men.   Twelve men came.

    (حَالَةُ الْجَرِّ) مَرَرْتُ بِاِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا

    I passed by twelve men.

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

(حَالَةُ النَّصْبِ)   رَأَيْتُ اِثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   (حَالَةُ الرَّفْعِ)   جَاءَ اِثْنَا عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   e.g.

Twelve men came.   I saw twelve men.

(حَالَةُ الْجَرِّ)   مَرَرْتُ بِاثْنَيْ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا

I passed by twelve men.

5. <u>Indeclinable phrase</u> – اَلْمُرَكَّبُ مَنْعُ الصَّرْفِ: It is a phrase in which two words are joined to form a single word.

- The first part of this phrase is always مَفْتُوْحٌ.

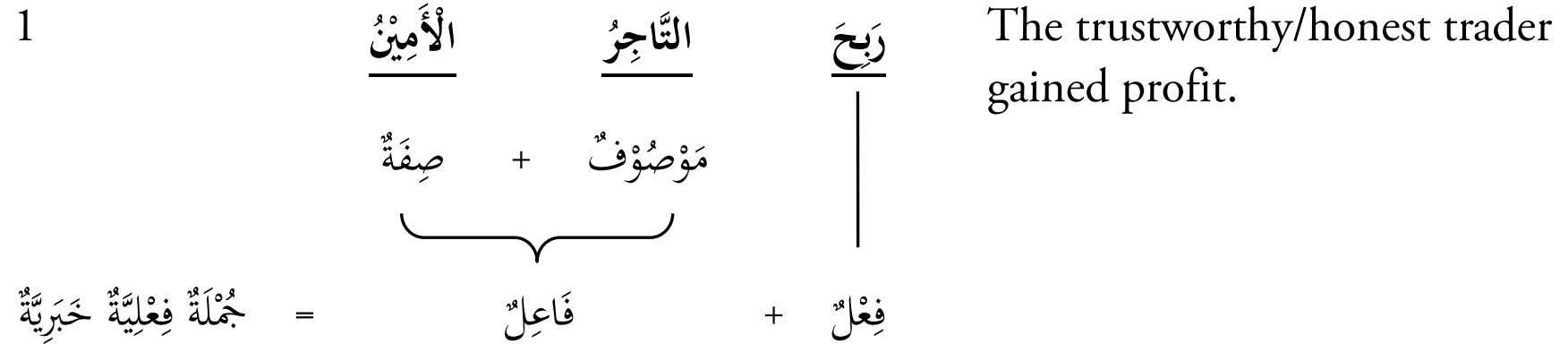- The second part changes according to the عَامِلٌ.

Examples:

1. حَضَرَمَوْتُ is the name of a region in Yemen. It is composed of two words حَضَرَ and مَوْتٌ. حَضَرَ is a فِعْلٌ, which means "he/it was present" and مَوْتٌ is an إِسْمٌ, which means "death." Thus, literally, حَضَرَمَوْتُ means "[a place where] death was present."

2. بَعْلَبَكُّ is a city in Lebanon. It is composed of two words بَعْلٌ and بَكَّ. بَعْلٌ was the name of an idol and بَكَّ was the name of a king.
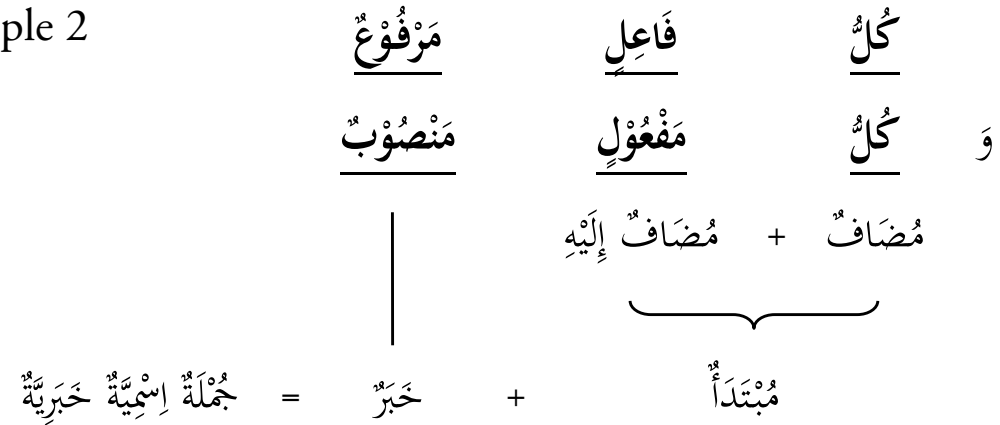
Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

Note: The above mentioned various types of phrases/incomplete sentences form part of a complete sentence.

Example 1

الْأَمِيْنُ   التَّاجِرُ   رَبِحَ   The trustworthy/honest trader gained profit.

صِفَةٌ   +   مَوْصُوْفٌ

فِعْلٌ   +   فَاعِلٌ   =   جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

Example 2

مَرْفُوْعٌ   فَاعِلٍ   كُلُّ

مَنْصُوْبٌ   مَفْعُوْلٍ   كُلُّ   وَ

Every faa'il is marfoo'

and every maf'ool is mansoob.

مُضَافٌ + مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

مُبْتَدَأٌ

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ   =   خَبَرٌ   +   مُبْتَدَأٌ

Example 3

الْكِتَابَ   هٰذَا   اِشْتَرَيْتُ

I bought this book.

اِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ + مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ

مَفْعُوْلٌ

جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ   =   مَفْعُوْلٌ   +   فِعْلٌ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ

Example 4

أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   جَاءَ   Fourteen men came.

Example 5
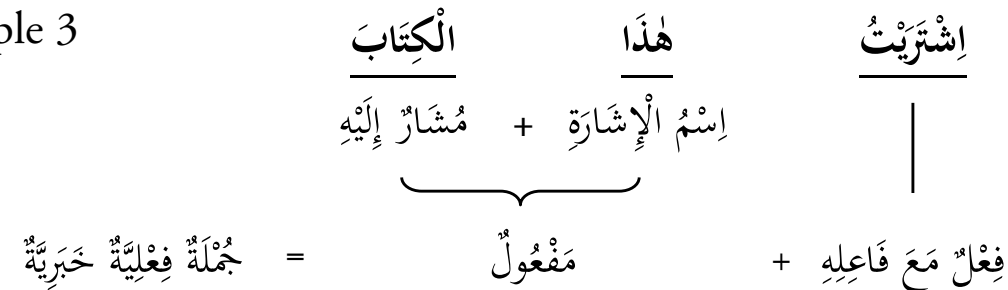
اِشْتَرَيْتُ هٰذَا الْكِتَابَ I bought this book.

Types of Phrases أقسام المركب الناقص

اِسْمُ الْإِشَارَةِ + مُشَارٌ إِلَيْهِ

جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ = مَفْعُولٌ + فِعْلٌ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ

Example 4   جَاءَ أَرْبَعَةَ عَشَرَ رَجُلًا   Fourteen men came.

جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ = فَاعِلٌ + فِعْلٌ

Example 5   هٰذِهِ بَعْلَبَكُّ   This is Ba'labakk.

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ = خَبَرٌ + مُبْتَدَأٌ

Additional Notes About Nominal Sentences

Additional notes about جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ

1. Sometimes, the خَبَرٌ is not mentioned, in which case it will be regarded as hidden (مُقَدَّرٌ).[7]

   e.g.   اَلْإِمَامُ فِي الْمَسْجِدِ   The Imam is in the mosque.

اَلْإِمَامُ	[حَاضِرٌ]	فِي	الْمَسْجِدِ
		حَرْفُ جَرٍّ + مَجْرُوْرٌ	
مُبْتَدَأٌ + خَبَرٌ مُقَدَّرٌ +		مُتَعَلِّقٌ بِالْخَبْرِ	= جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

Additional Notes About Nominal Sentences

مُبْتَدَأٌ + خَبَرٌ مُقَدَّرٌ + مُتَعَلِّقٌ بِالْخَبَرِ = جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

2. The خَبَرٌ can be a complete sentence.

Example 1: زَيْدٌ أَبُوْهُ عَالِمٌ Zayd's father is knowledgeable.

عَالِمٌ   أَبُوْهُ   زَيْدٌ

مُضَافٌ + مُضَافٌ إِلَيْهِ

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ = خَبَرٌ + مُبْتَدَأٌ

جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ = خَبَرٌ + مُبْتَدَأٌ

الطَّعَامَ   أَكَ...   زَيْدٌ
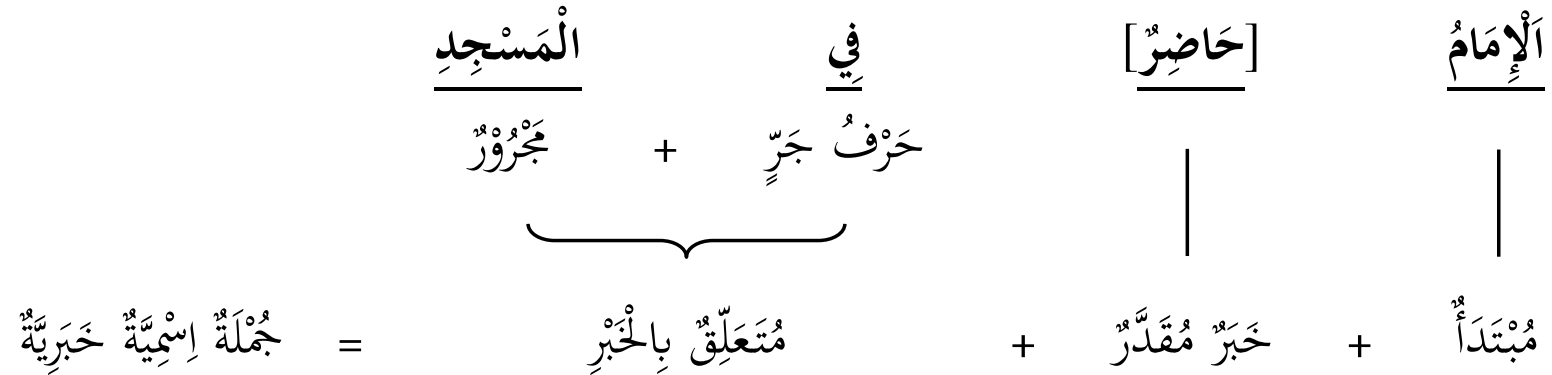
Additional Notes About Nominal Sentences

Example 2:   زَيْدٌ أَكَلَ الطَّعَامَ   Zayd ate the food.

زَيْدٌ   أَكَلَ   الطَّعَامَ

|

مُبْتَدَأٌ + خَبَرٌ = جُمْلَةٌ اِسْمِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ

فِعْلٌ مَعَ فَاعِلِهِ + مَفْعُوْلٌ = جُمْلَةٌ فِعْلِيَّةٌ خَبَرِيَّةٌ