

TO THE TEACHER

Lesson 5 To the teacher

This lesson introduces how to find the subject of a sentence. The subject is the first noun box that we look at and the rules for the subject box apply to every other noun box.

Once they can find the Subject and the X-Word, they can start looking at different trunk patterns.

Most of the subjects in this lesson are simple ones, so the main subject is the last word in the subject box.

A typical noun box

name→	Determiner	Describer	Noun
Abbreviation→	Dt	Ds	*
example→	The	next	bird

The only more complicated noun boxes are these. Ss don't need to identify the main subjects in these sentences, but if they ask...

1 migratory birds like ducks and geese

Dt \* <pr

7 Each bird <in the V is a really common pattern. In this case the main noun is the word right in front of the first preposition. Since many of our prepositions are only 2 letters long, students can learn to scan for them early on and find the main subject.

A prepositional phrase is just a preposition followed by a noun box. It's know which preposition to use that's hard!

pr Dt \*  
<in the V

The lesson on finding the main subject comes later on, but letting them know that there is such a thing helps when it comes to subject/verb agreement.

Students who have had more traditional grammar often get confused by things like Gerunds as subjects and Uncountable nouns. That's why there's an **optional** 3<sup>rd</sup> exercise.

Vocabulary: 258 words

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New grammar terms

Gerund: running, flying

Uncountable noun: music, science, nature

Main subject

Box

Why do birds fly in a V ?

(lots of location words to fit into a mini-lesson)

a 45 degree angle

the front bird

the rear bird

the bird ahead

birds in a V

save energy

side vision

nature