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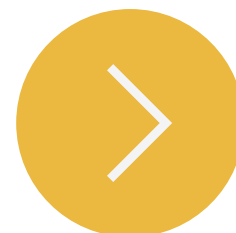
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SENTENCE STRUCTURE L8 – SENTENCE BRACKETS

WHAT ARE SENTENCE BRACKETS?

Some verbs use a prefix, or we use them in combination with a second verb.

The conjugated verb remains in position 2, but the prefix or second verb is at the end of the sentence.

This creates brackets that contain all of the other information ⇒ Sentence Brackets.

Example: „Ich **stehe** um 6 Uhr **auf**.“



WHEN DO WE USE SENTENCE BRACKETS?

We use sentence brackets when there is a separable verb or more than one verb in a sentence:

- Modal verbs
- Perfect tense
- Past perfect tense
- Future tense
- All passive forms



		Position 2		End
Separable Verbs	Ich	räume	heute die Wohnung	auf.
Modal Verbs	Ich	muss	heute die Wohnung	aufräumen.
Perfect	Ich	habe	heute die Wohnung	aufgeräumt.
Past Perfect	Ich	hatte	heute die Wohnung	aufgeräumt.
Future	Ich	werde	heute die Wohnung	aufräumen.
Passive	Die Wohnung	wird	heute von mir	aufgeräumt.

Sentence brackets are primarily used most often in main clauses. In subordinate clauses, the verb is at the end, so no sentence brackets are needed.

That is especially important for separable verbs. If the prefix and the main part of the verb are both at the end, we do not separate them anymore.

- „Ich **stehe** früh **auf**.“
→ With sentence brackets because it's a main clause and the verb is in P2.
- „Ich gehe zeitig ins Bett, weil ich immer früh **aufstehe**.“
→ No sentence brackets are needed because it's a subordinate clause. The prefix and the verb remain together at the end of the sentence → We do not separate them.

SUMMARY

- When there are two verbs in a sentence, the conjugated verb is in position 2 and the second verb always is at the end of the sentence.
- For separable verbs, the verb stem stays in position 2, and the prefix is at the end of the sentence.
- If the separable verb is at the end of the sentence, we do NOT separate it!

TASK



Native Language Check:

- Check your own language!
- Do you have sentence brackets?
- They don't exist in the English language!

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