

## Constructing Sentences

Just like in English, the typical simple sentence in Filipino consists of a subject (topic) and a predicate (comment about the topic). The subject of a simple Filipino sentence can be a noun or a pronoun. The predicate can be a noun, a verb, an adjective, or a prepositional phrase.

Filipino sentences either use the subject/predicate (S/P) word order, or predicate/subject (P/S) word order. Subject/predicate sentences have the “ay” predicate marker while predicate/subject sentences are inverted and do not have the “ay” predicate marker.

- Subject/predicate sentence example: Ang aso **ay** matapang.
- Predicate/subject sentence example: Matapang ang aso.
  - *Translation: The dog is tough*

There are 3 cases of nouns and pronouns in the Filipino language:

- Ang-case refers to the subject of the sentence. Noun markers include ang, ang mga, si and sina.
  - Example: **Ang** bata ay mabait.  
*Translation: The kid is nice.*
- Sa-case indicates the “place” of something and answers the question “where?”. Noun markers include sa, sa mga, kay and kina.
  - Example: Si Nicki ay pumunta **sa** Madison Square Garden.  
*Translation: Nicki went to Madison Square Garden.*

Sa-case is also used to indicate the “indirect object” and answer the questions “to whom” or “for whom”.

- Example: Ako ay nagbigay ng regalo **kay** Julia.  
*Translation: I gave a gift to Julia.*
  - Ng-case refers to the “direct object” and answers the questions “to whom” or “for whom”. Noun markers include ng, ng mga, ni and nina.
    - Example: Siya ay nagbigay **ng tinapay** sa kaniya.  
*Translation: He/she gave him/her bread.*
- Ng-case is also used to indicate ownership.
- Example: Si Solana ay pumunta sa **kaniyang lola**.  
*Translation: Solana went to her grandmother.*

## Basic Sentence Patterns:

- Basic sentence pattern #1 (BSP #1) defines someone or somebody. The pattern is noun/pronoun + ay (predicate marker) + another noun/pronoun, which follows the subject/predicate word order.
  - Example: Ang babae ay aktress.  
*Translation: The woman is an actress.*

To form a negation for basic sentence pattern 1, add “hindi” after the predicate marker, “ay”.

- Example: Si Robin ay hindi manunulat.  
*Translation: Robin is not a writer.*

- Basic sentence pattern #2 (BSP #2) describes somebody or something. Following the subject/predicate word order, we start with a noun/pronoun and add an adjective.
  - Example: Ang alimango ay malaki.  
*Translation: The crab is big.*
- Basic sentence pattern #3 (BSP #3): Following the subject/predicate word order, we start with a noun/pronoun and add a verb.
  - Example: Ang guro ay nagtuturo.  
*Translation: The teacher is teaching.*

### Linkers

Linkers (-g, -ng, na) are used to connect Tagalog words in the following situations:  
adjective + noun; noun + adjective; pronoun + noun; pronoun + verb.

- Add the linker “-ng” if the preceding word ends in a vowel.
  - Example: pusang **ng** itim
- Add the linker “na” if the preceding word ends in a consonant, except for the letter “n”.
  - Example: lugar **na** mainit
- Add the linker “-g” if the preceding word ends in an “n”.
  - Examples: pagka**ng** masarap

### Actor Focus Verbs

- “Mag” is a prefix; it is placed before the root verb.
  - If the root verb begins with a vowel, put a hyphen in between the root and the prefix.
- “Um” is a prefix if the root verb begins with a vowel; otherwise, it is an infix.

Prefix	Infinitive	Future	Present	Past
Mag	mag + root verb	mag + repeat 1st vowel/consonant-vowel pair of root verb + root verb	nag + repeat 1st vowel/consonant-vowel pair of root verb + root verb	nag + root verb
Ex:	mag- <b>isip</b> mag <b>maneho</b>	mag- <b>iisip</b> mag <b>mamaneho</b>	nag- <b>isip</b> nag <b>mamaneho</b>	nag- <b>isip</b> nag <b>maneho</b>
Um	um + root verb	repeat 1st vowel of root verb + root verb	um + repeat 1st vowel of root verb + root verb	um + root verb (same as infinitive)
	(insert um to 1st consonant-vowel pair)	(repeat 1st consonant-vowel pair of root verb + root verb)	(insert um to 1st consonant-vowel pair of the future aspect)	(insert um to 1st consonant-vowel pair) [same as infinitive]
Ex:	um <b>alis</b> lum <b>ipad</b>	<b>aalis</b> l <b>ilipad</b>	um <b>aalis</b> lum <b>ilipad</b>	um <b>alis</b> lum <b>ipad</b>