

There are two types of sentences in Arabic:

1. الجُمْلَةُ الاسْمِيَّةُ The nominal sentence

2. الجملة الفِعْلِيَّةُ The verbal sentence

The nominal sentence starts with the subject (mubtada). After the mubtada comes the khabr-predicate (the predicate tells about the subject). Example:



The Mubtada is usually Ma'rifa (a word which is definite/specific). From the different types of ma'rifas a mubtada can be:

A proper name	أ) مُحَمَّدٌ رَسُولُ اللَّهِ
A pronoun	ب) أَنَا مَدْرَسٌ
Asmaa' Ashaarah – words that are used to point things out like: هذا، ذلك	ج) هَذَا مَسْجِدٌ
Asmaa Mawsoolah – connecting words like: التي، الذين	د) الَّذِي يَعْبُدُ غَيْرَ اللَّهِ مُشْرِكٌ
A word with ال	ه) الْقُرْآنُ كِتَابُ اللَّهِ
A mudaf (owned) word whose possessor is definite/specific	و) مِفْتَاحُ الْجَنَّةِ الصَّلَاةُ

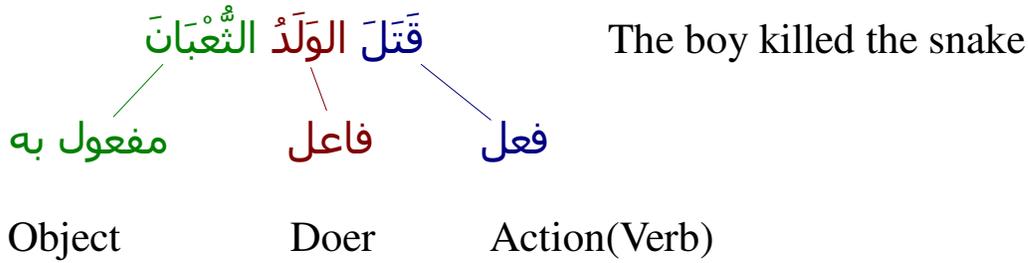
Taken from Madinah Book 3 lesson 11

http://www.iu.edu.sa/web/spages/edu/syukbah/du3_12.htm

Also refer to this link for the different types of khabar (as well as the short lesson 10 in Book 3)

As for a verbal sentence, it starts with a verb (فِعْلٌ). After the verb comes the

doer of the action (فَاعِل) – which is marfoo' and the direct object (مَفْعُول بِهِ) – which is mansoob. Example:



When the verb comes BEFORE the doer, the verb must be singular (NOT dual or plural)

When the verb comes AFTER the doer, it must agree in number with the doer

الطلاب ذهبوا إلى الملعب.

Notice how the verb, when it comes after the plural doer, is plural

الطالبات ذهبن إلى المكتبة.

Notice how the verb, when it comes after the plural doer, is plural

ذهب الطلاب إلى الملعب.

Notice how the verb, when it comes before the plural doer, is singular

ذهبت الطالبات إلى المكتبة.

Notice how the verb, when it comes before the plural doer, is singular

For more examples, refer to Madinah Book 2, lesson 5:

http://www.iu.edu.sa/web/spages/edu/syukbah/du2_6.htm