

# CORSO DI LAUREA IN COMUNICAZIONE INTERLINGUISTICA APPLICATA ALLE PROFESSIONI GIURIDICHE

## Modulo di Lingua Inglese 1 2019-20

Lesson 5 – 6 April 2020

- Word Order
- Lambarth Chapter 5: Court system

# Word Order

Word Order in English is usually:

Subject – Verb – Object

How is the order of adjectives determined?

Example: A major, long-awaited, legal interpretation.

What is the usual position of adverbs in a clause?

# Inversion

Do we know how many sections the bill has?

Wouldn't it be better to rewrite the clause?

Would it not be better to rewrite the clause?

“The sentence is very clear”, he said.

“The sentence is very clear”, said he.

This regulation works better than does the other one.

This regulation works better than the other one does.

This regulation works better than the other one.

# So and Nor (Neither)

Company results in the third quarter will be better.  
So will those in the final quarter.

I think results will be best next year.  
So do I.

I do not understand the sense of this regulation.  
Nor (Neither) do I.

The legal position will not improve in the immediate future.  
Neither (Nor) will the arguments presented.

# Conditional Sentences

If I had known, I would have told you.

Had I known, I would have told you.

If I knew, I would tell you.

\* Knew I, I would tell you. \*

If you have an opportunity, could you send them the report, please.

Should you have an opportunity, could you send them the report, please.

# Negative Openings

Never (before) has so much legislation been passed.

So much legislation has never (before) been passed.

Hardly (Scarcely) had they overcome the crisis when the law changed.

No sooner had they overcome the crisis than the law changed.

Only when they had overcome the crisis did the law change.

# Position of Preposition

What are you looking at?

At what are you looking?

Who are you speaking to?

To whom are you speaking?

This is a problem we have spoken about.

This is a problem about which we have spoken.

Here are the results you have been waiting for.

Here are the results for which you have been waiting.

# “It” Cleft Sentences

The English courts needed a clear sentence more than anything else.

It was the English courts that needed a clear sentence more than anything else.

It was a clear sentence that the English courts needed more than anything else.

More than anything else, the English courts needed a clear sentence.



# “What” Cleft Sentences

I want to present the results of the recent legal campaign now.

What I want to present now are the results of the recent legal campaign.

What I want to do now is present the results of the recent legal campaign. Now, I want to present the results of the recent legal campaign.

# “It” and “What” Cleft Sentences

The increase in appeals compared to convictions is surprising.

It is the increase in appeals compared to convictions that is surprising.

What is surprising is the increase in in appeals compared to convictions.

# “It” substituting the true subject

It took a long time to convince them to appeal.

Convincing them to appeal took a long time.

# Fronting

That issue we will discuss in the next meeting.

That the problem remained was evident to everyone

Why this is the case is a matter of debate.

So successful was the rule change that it will be continued for a further month.

Equally encouraging was the new legislation.

# Verbs with Direct and Indirect Objects

The judge gave the jury clear indications .

The judge gave clear indications to the jury.

The law grants individuals in need free legal advice.

The law grants free legal advice to individuals in need.

# Phrasal Verbs

The contract puts up prices at the end of the year.

The contract puts prices up at the end of the year.

The contract puts them up at the end of the year.

# Order of Adjectives

Most adjectives are placed before nouns, respecting (more or less) the following order:

SIZE	AGE/TIME	SHAPE	COLOUR	ORIGIN/SOURCE	MATERIAL
little	recent	round	pink	Japanese	plastic
small	ancient	square	white	European	silk
short	old	twisted	green	Arabic	cotton
tiny	dated	oval	red	American	lace
big	brand-new	wedge-shaped	black	Victorian-style	leather
huge	modern	circular	blue	Chinese	glass

See: George Yule, 'The Study of Language'

- A subjective adjective (fantastic, wonderful, etc.) will generally be placed first.
- The most significant adjective is placed closest to the noun.
- Normally, no more than three adjectives are used before a noun.

# Position of Adjectives

Adjectives can also be placed after the noun:

- The result was both satisfactory and convincing
- This area is smoke-free.
- The project is becoming increasingly difficult.
- They appeared to be careful and efficient.
- They worked carefully and efficiently.



# Position of Adverbs

Adverbs can (in theory) be placed:

- at the beginning
- in the middle
- at the end of a sentence:

Usually, prices increase before a holiday period.

Prices usually increase before a holiday period.

Prices increase before a holiday period usually.

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# Adverbial Openings

Having reviewed the past situation, the president moved on to the future plans.

Unlike last year, this year's regulations are much clearer.

Given the current situation, this was surprising

Nevertheless, caution is recommended.

Looking to the future, we need to be more regulated.

All in all, the claim is probably justified.