

Complete Sentences

1. Start with a capital letter 

2. Have end punctuation (. ? !)

3. Have a subject (S)

4. Have a verb (V)

5. Make sense 



S  **V** **.?!'**

The Subject

The person, place, thing,
quality, or idea that the
sentence is about.

Examples:

<u>Jenna</u> went for a walk.	(Person)
The <u>store</u> was closed.	(Place)
<u>Balloons</u> rose into the sky.	(Things)
<u>Silence</u> filled the streets.	(Quality)
<u>Peace</u> was declared at midnight.	(Idea)

Action Verb

**A word that shows the
action of the subject
of the sentence.**

Examples:

Body actions

walk

run

Mind actions

think

want

The PENS Strategy

Pick a formula

Explore words to fit the
formula

Note the words

Search and check

Search & Check Step

M

Ask “Is there a verb?”

Root out the subject

(Ask, “Who or what _____?”)

Key in on the

- **beginning**
- **ending**
- **meaning**

Linking Verbs

**Words that link the subject
to another word that
describes the subject.**

Am

Was

Are

Were

Is

Seem

Be

Been

Become

Verb

**A word that shows the
action or state-of-being
of the subject.**

Search & Check Step

Mark out imposters

- infinitives
- prepositional phrases

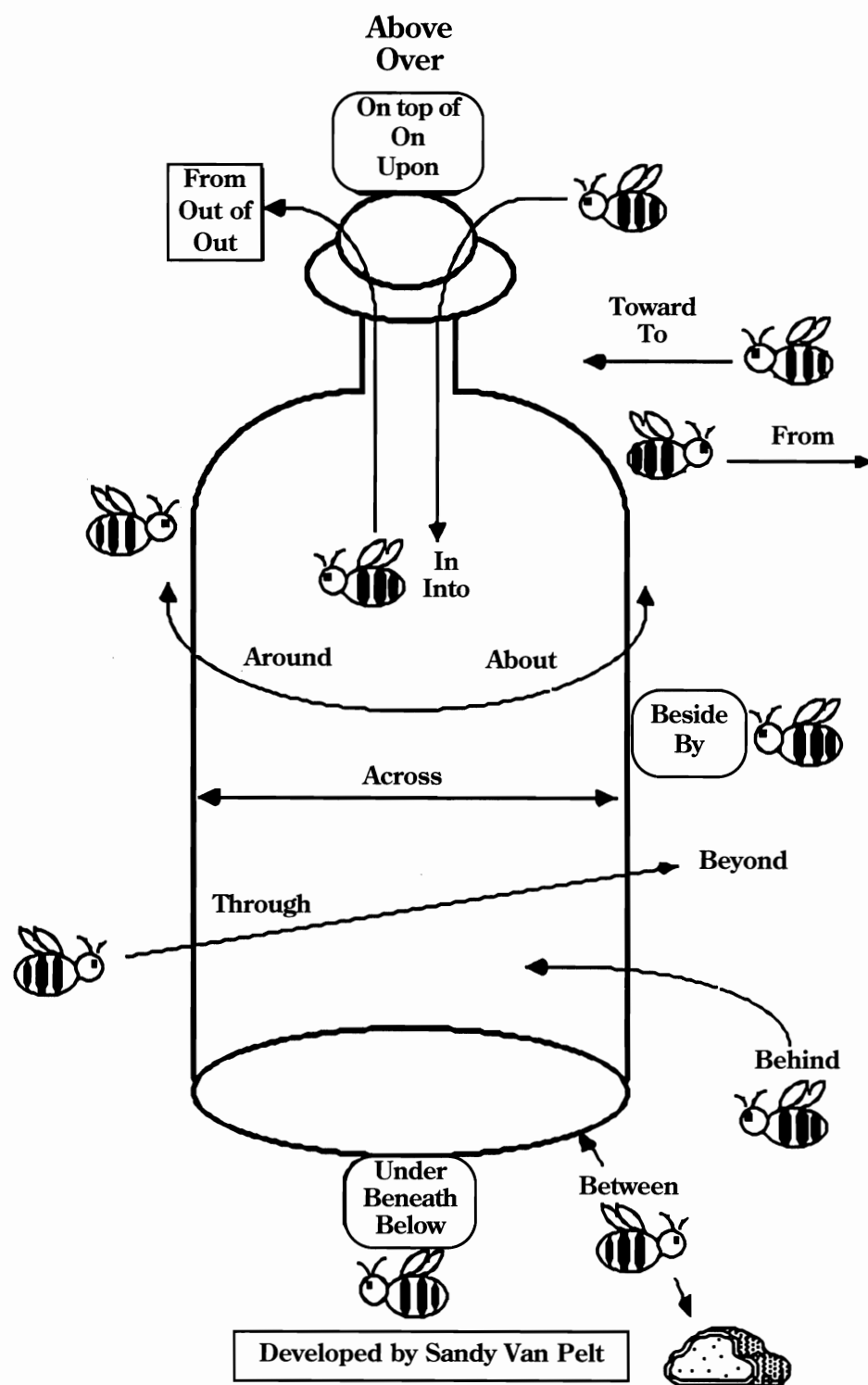
Ask “Is there a verb?”

Root out the subject
 (“Who or what _____?”)

Key in on the

- beginning
- ending
- meaning

A Bee Flies _____ the Bottle



Prepositions

about	down	past
above	during	
across		since
after	except	
against		through
along	for	throughout
amid	from	to
among		toward
around	in	
at	inside	under
	into	underneath
before		until
behind	like	up
below		upon
beneath	near	
		with
beside	of	within
between	off	without
beyond	on	
by	over	
	out	
	outside of	

Adjective

A word that describes a noun.

Main Subject

**The one word that
best tells what the sentence
is about.**

Helping Verbs

**Words that help
the main verb show the
action in a sentence.**

Helping Verbs

am
are

is

can
could

may
might
must

do
does
did

shall
should

has
have
had

was
were

will
would

be

being

been

Adverbs

**Words that add information
about the action of the
subject of the sentence.**

They show

- **When**
- **Where**
- **How**
- **To what extent
(how often, how much)
the action takes place.**