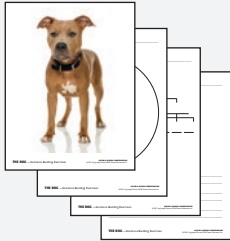


THE DOG

Sentence-Building Exercise 2



Materials:

photograph of dog, students' circle-in-circle charts and branch organizers, lined paper, tape, completed circle-in-circle chart on chart paper (from Lesson 55 sentence-building exercise), two pieces of blank chart paper, dry-erase marker, watercolor marker



Before the Lesson:

1. At <http://fhautism.com/arc.html>, find the circle-in-circle chart, branch organizer, and lined paper. Print one of each for each student, plus a few extras.
2. On the blank chart paper, draw the lined paper and branch organizer.
3. On the board, hang the completed circle-in-circle chart on chart paper (from Lesson 55 sentence-building exercise) and blank branch organizer.
4. Write the date on the board.

Teaching the Lesson

1. Gather the children in a circle. Hold up the photograph of the dog. Ask: "What animal is this?" If no one can identify the animal, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself.
2. Ask: "Who can tell me something about the dog?" If no one answers, ask: "What can the dog do?" If no one answers, prompt the students to look at the circle-in-circle chart on the board. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Possible answers include bark, wag his tail, dig. Students may come up with different answers. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.
3. Ask: "What does the dog have? If no one answers, prompt the students to look at the circle-in-circle chart on the board. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Possible answers include four legs, a tail, teeth.

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Students may come up with different answers. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.

- 4.** Ask: “What does the dog like? If no one answers, prompt the students to look at the circle-in-circle chart on the board. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Possible answers include dog food, bones, hamburger. Students may come up with different answers. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.
- 5.** Praise students and pass out reinforcers.
- 6.** The children return to their desks. Pass out pencils and blank graphic organizers. On each desk, tape a circle-in-circle chart on the left and the branch organizer on the right.
- 7.** Say: “Write your name on your paper.” Make sure everyone writes his or her name. Then say: “Write the date. It is on the board.” Make sure everyone writes the date.
- 8.** Say: “Copy the words from the circle-in-circle chart on the board onto your circle-in-circle chart.”
- 9.** Say: “Now we will do the branch organizer.” On the branch organizer on the board, write “Dog” on the top line and “Can,” “Has,” and “Likes” on the three spaces under the top line. Say: “Copy the words onto your charts.”
- 10.** Ask: “What can the dog do?” Point to the words on the circle-in-circle chart. Encourage students to look at their own chart. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.

If someone uses a nonsensical word, e.g., “dog food,” say the whole sentence. Say: “The dog can dog food? Does that make sense? Let’s look back in the circle and find something the dog can do.”

- 11.** Write students’ answers on the branch organizer on the board. For each answer, say: “Write (the answer) under the word ‘Can’ on your branch organizer.”
- 12.** For each word that students write, say the whole sentence, e.g., “The dog can dig.” As you say each word of the sentence, point to the corresponding word on the branch chart.

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- 13.** Ask: “What does the dog have?” Point to the words on the circle-in-circle chart. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.
- If someone uses a nonsensical word, e.g., “dig,” say the whole sentence. Say: “The dog has dig? Does that make sense? Let’s look back in the circle and find something the dog has.”
- 14.** Write students’ answers on the branch chart. For each answer, say: “Write (the answer) under the word ‘Has’ on your branch organizer.”
- 15.** For each word that students write, say the whole sentence, e.g., “The dog has teeth.” As you say each word of the sentence, point to the corresponding word on the branch chart.
- 16.** Ask: “What does the dog like?” Point to the words on the circle-in-circle chart. If no one answers, ask an aide to answer, or answer the question yourself. Ask the question several times, and allow different children to answer.
- If someone uses nonsensical words, e.g., “four legs,” say the whole sentence. Say: “The dog likes four legs? Does that make sense? Let’s look back in the circle and find something the dog likes.”
- 17.** Write students’ answers on the branch organizer on the board. For each answer, say: “Write (the answer) under the word ‘Likes’ on your branch organizer.”
- 18.** For each word that students write, say the whole sentence, e.g., “The dog likes dog food.” As you say each word of the sentence, point to the corresponding word on the branch chart.
- 19.** Praise students, pass out reinforcers, and take a short break.
- 20.** Draw a large version of the lined paper on your chart paper, using the watercolor marker. Tape the chart paper to the board. Pass out the lined paper. Tape one to each desk, next to the branch organizer.
- 21.** Say: “It’s time to make a sentence. Let’s make a sentence from the first column of the branch organizer, using the word ‘Can.’” (Example sentence: The dog can dig.) Point to the words on the branch chart on the board as you slowly say them, forming the sentence.

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Lead students to make different sentences than they did in the first sentence-building exercise.

- 22.** Write the sentence on your “lined paper” on the board.
- 23.** Say: “Copy the sentence on the first line of your paper.”
- 24.** Say: “Today we are going to try making a longer sentence. We are going to use two words from the ‘Has’ column of the branch organizer. Let me show you how.” Point to the words on the branch chart on the board as you slowly say them, forming the sentence. (Example sentence: The dog has teeth and four legs.)

Use only one compound phrase per exercise.

- 25.** Write the sentence on your “lined paper” on the board.
- 26.** Say: “Copy the sentence on the second line of your paper.” Make sure they write on the lines and not in the blank space above. This is for the illustration.
- 27.** Say: “Let’s make a sentence from the third column of the branch organizer, using the word ‘Likes.’” (Example sentence: The dog likes dog food.) Point to the words on the branch chart on the board as you slowly say them, forming the sentence.
- 28.** Write the sentence on your “lined paper” on the board.
- 29.** Say: “Copy the sentence on the third line of your paper.”

When students become familiar with this process, they may choose any of the three words to make a sentence.

- 30.** Say: “Now we will read our sentences aloud.” Group students in pairs to read to each other, or let each child read aloud to you, an aide, or the whole class.
- 31.** Praise students and pass out reinforcers.
- 32.** Say: “Now we will draw a picture to go with our sentences.” Lead students to read the first sentence and then draw a picture of it. Do this for each sentence, one sentence at a time at first. Monitor the drawings and try to limit them to drawing only one dog. If a higher-functioning child is drawing three dogs, clearly intending one dog for each sentence, without exhibiting difficulties, then that is okay. Later

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in the program, they may be able to remember two or three details at once and incorporate them all into one dog picture.

Students might be tempted to draw the same picture as in the first sentence-building exercise. Keep students connected to the meaning of the words. Remember, the illustration must reflect the information in the sentence.

- 33.** Collect papers and pencils, praise students, and pass out reinforcers.