Steps: Identifying Grammar

- 1. Identify and ignore all prepositional phrases
  Example: One (of the students) was usually helping others (before class.)

- 2. Find the verbs.
  Look for action verbs, linking verbs and helping verbs.
  Example: One (of the students) was usually helping others (before class.)

- 3. Identify the subject. Who + verb? What + verb?
  Example: One (of the students) was usually helping others (before class.)
Prepositional phrases

- Always begin with a preposition
- Always end with a noun or pronoun
- Never include the subject or verb of a sentence
- Find prepositions; ask “Preposition + what? Preposition + Who?”

Examples:
- I am learning (about Paloma Picasso.)
- Jeremiah is running (in the competition.)
Infinitive Verbs:

- **To + verb**
  - Not a prepositional phrase
  - Not part of the verb of a sentence

- **Examples**
  - I **love** to read (in the park.)
  - I **hope** to camp (over the weekend.)
Do not act as a verb in a sentence unless they are used with a form of “to be” (am, is, are, was, were..)

Examples:

- Jackie loves reading (before class.)
- Jackie was reading (before class.)
- Reading is fun!
- I do not like my reading homework.