

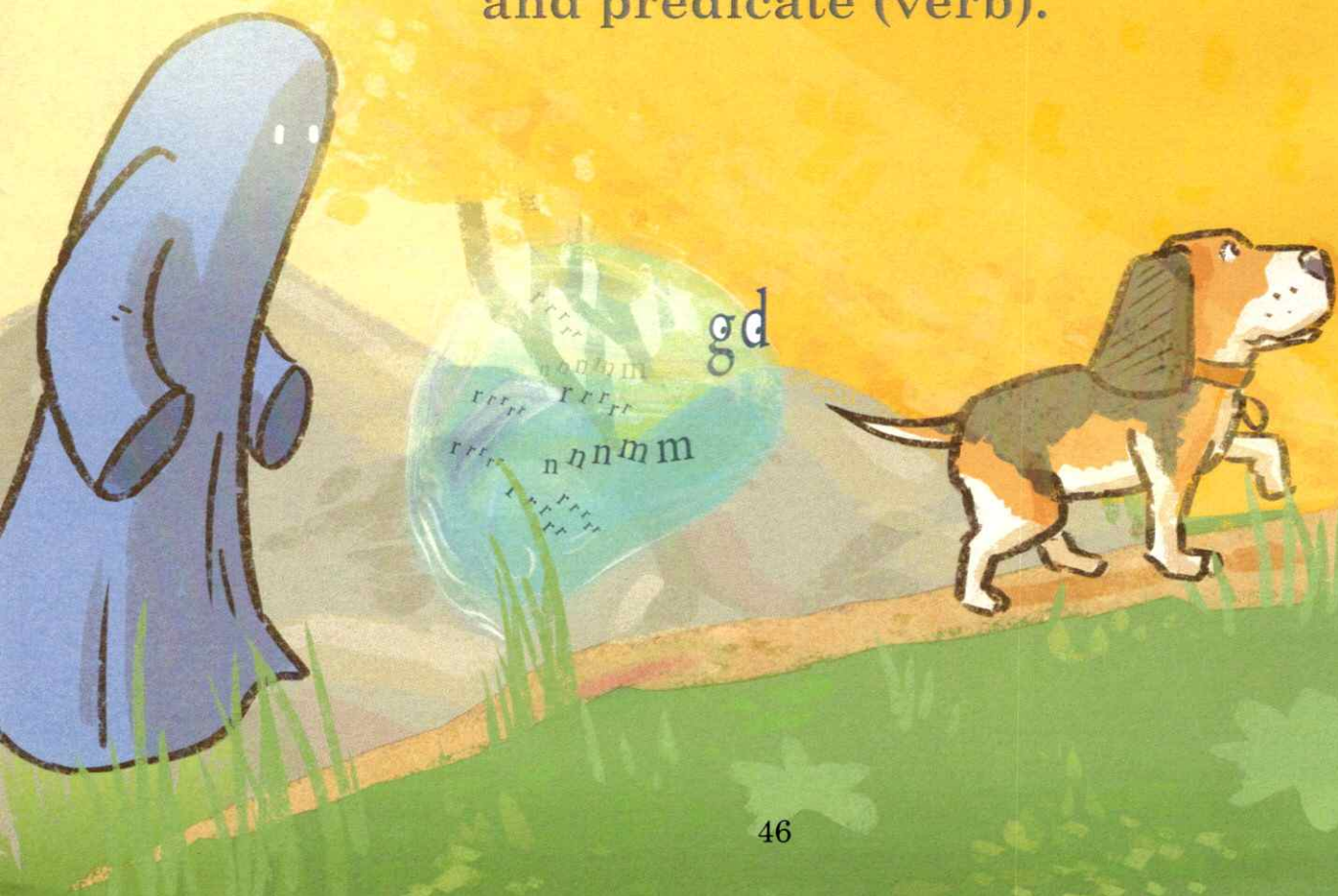


As they began to walk, Poodle knew there was one more thing to do.
“Before we set out for the next portal,” he said, “we have to write our first **principle**. We will call it The First Principle of Clauses.”

“Principle?” asked What?
“What’s a principle? What-what?”

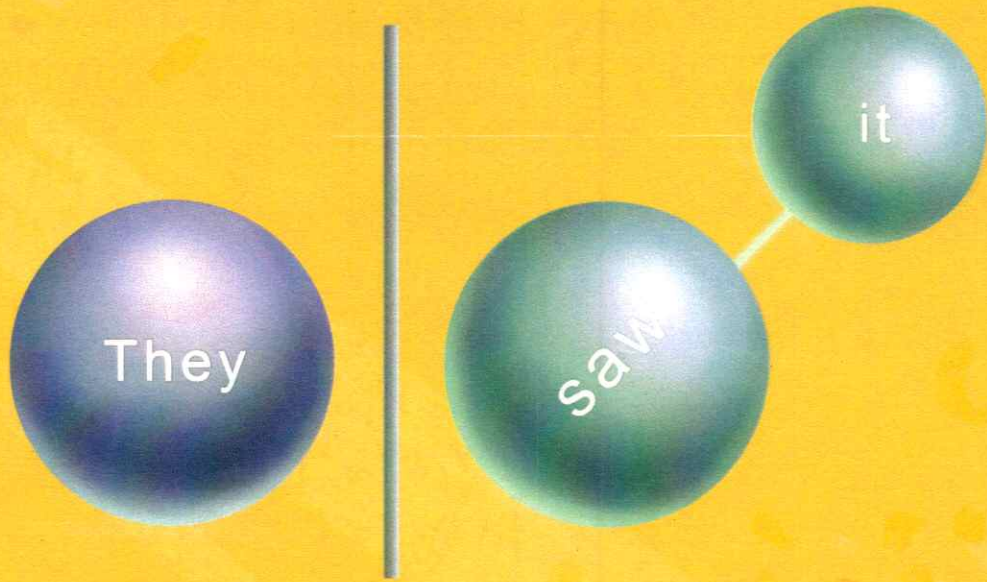
“It’s a basic truth,” Poodle said.
“A fundamental truth. Our first principle of clauses will be this:

“The First Principle
Every clause has a subject
and predicate (verb).”



“You see it, right?” Poodle asked.
“Every. *Every* clause.”

They saw it.



They

pron.
subj.

saw

v.
AVP

it.

pron.
D.O.

no phrases

-----clause-----





“Good. Let’s go,” Poodle whispered,
and they moved down the grassy road,
and their four shadows followed behind.

From some leaves, a green frog watched them pass,
with the shadows trailing behind,
and she said *urp*.
That’s what those green ones say.

“Where does this grassy road go?” asked What?.

“To another portal,” said Poodle.
“It’s up there somewhere.”

They moved down the road less traveled by,
careful to avoid the edge of the page,
where they might fall off.

