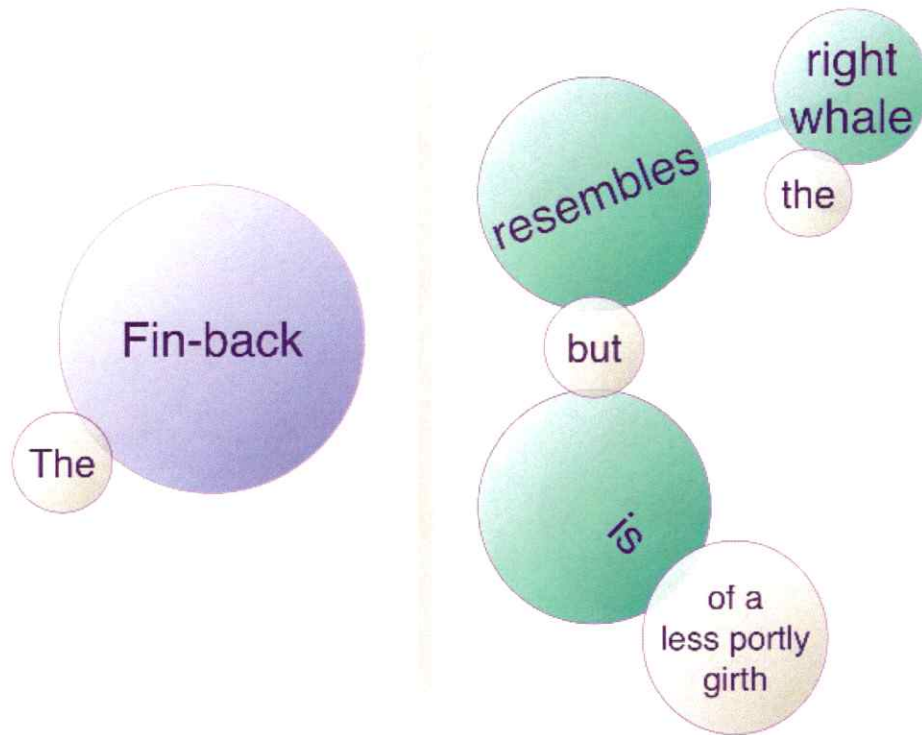


We do have to inspect sentences carefully. Look at this pretty sentence from *Moby Dick*: “The Fin-back resembles the right whale, but is of a less portly girth.” How many clauses do you see in this sentence? At first you might be tempted to say two, but as you look more deeply, you realize that it is a simple sentence, a sentence with only one clause. The trick is that, like the Jack London sentence we saw at the beginning of this section, the sentence has only one subject with a compound verb.



We will treat *right whale* as a compound noun because it is the name of a whale species. The prepositional phrase acts as an adverb to modify the verb in the second clause. The adjective *portly* means stout or fat.

The Fin-back resembles the right whale but is of a less portly girth.

adj.	n.	v.	adj.	-----n.-----	conj.	v.	prep.	adj.	adv.	adj.	n.
subj.		AVP		-----D.O.-----		LVP					
-----prep. phrase-----											
-----independent clause-----											