

Every Sentence is like a tree

Every living tree has a **trunk and roots** that help it grow.

Every sentence has **an independent clause**.

Some trees have more than one trunk.

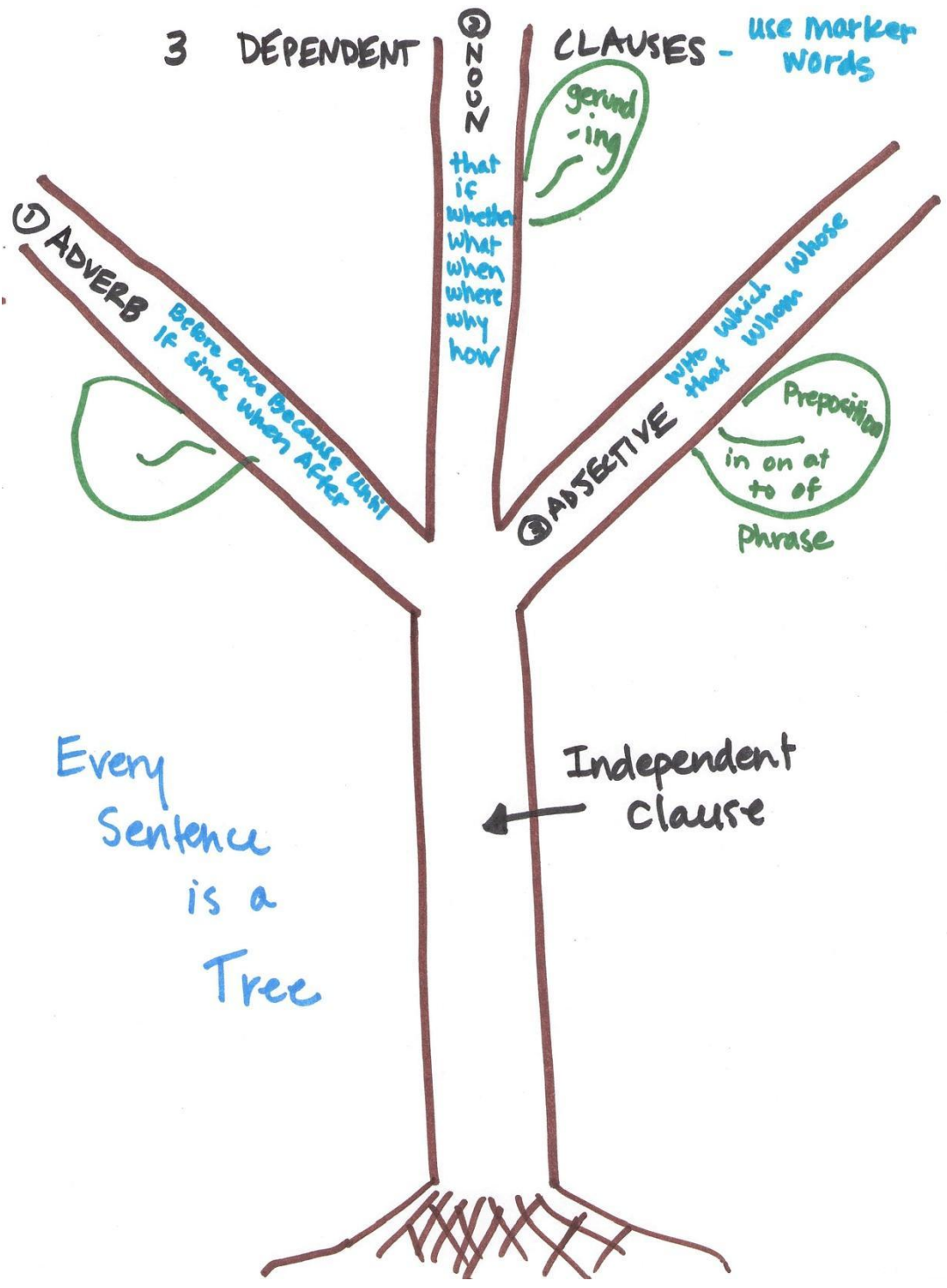
Some sentences have more than one independent clause.

Trees have **branches** that depend on connection to the trunk for water to stay alive. If you cut a branch off a tree, it is just a piece of the tree. It's not a tree.

Sentences have **dependent clauses** that depend on connection to the independent clause. If you write a dependent clause that is not connected to an independent clause, it is just a piece of a sentence, a fragment. It's not a sentence.

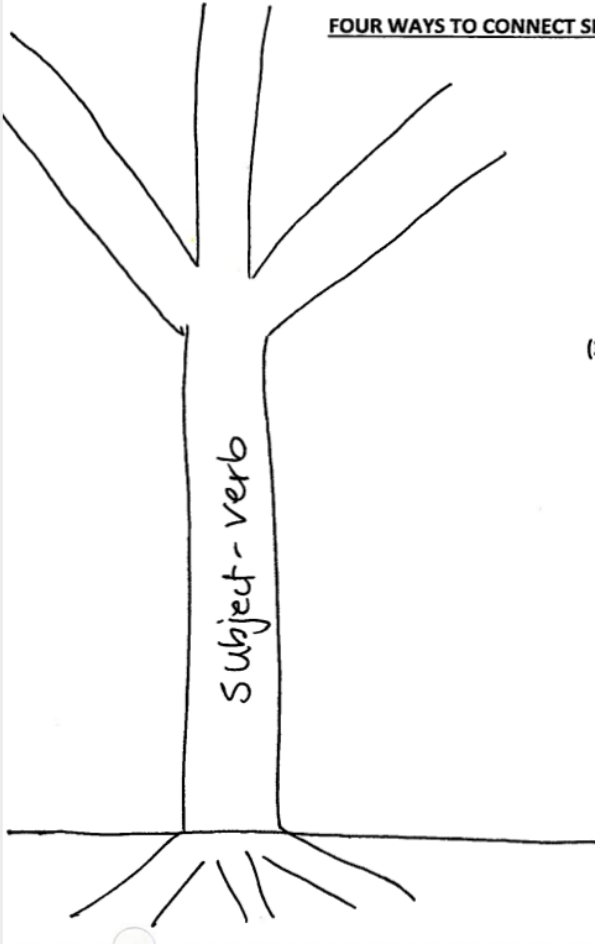
Trees have **leaves**. On many trees, the leaves fall off in the winter. The tree is still a tree.

Sentences have **phrases**. Phrases are "extra." They add information to the sentence but can attach or detach without changing the main meaning of the sentence.



Every Sentence is a Tree

FOUR WAYS TO CONNECT SENTENCES **** Commas , NEVER connect two trees!**



(1) PERIOD .

(2) CONJUNCTIONS:

, and

, but

, so

(3) ADVERBIAL CONJUNCTIONS:

. In addition,

. However,

. Therefore,

; in addition,

; however,

; therefore,

(4) SEMI-COLON ;

