

Sentences and their meaning

Which words can you *delete* (take away) from a sentence and still understand the meaning of what is left?

Look at this example:

The girl kicked the ball.
~~The~~ girl kicked the ball. Girl kicked the ball.
The girl kicked ~~the~~ ball. The girl kicked ball.

Can you still understand what the sentence means?

What about:

The girl kicked the ball.
The girl ~~kicked~~ the ball. The girl the ball.
The girl kicked the ~~ball~~. The girl kicked the.

Can you still understand what the sentence means?

Look at these sentences and delete one word at a time and check if you can still understand the meaning. For each one write down the words that you can delete.

1. The dog chased the stick.
2. The bird sang a song.
3. The man got into his car.
4. The train sped along the track.
5. The flag fluttered in the breeze.
6. The queen sat on the throne.
7. The shark swam under the water.
8. The water boiled in the kettle.

Now add any words that you think might be missing from these sentences.

1. Man hooted horn.
2. Lady carries bag.
3. Cat mouse.
4. Frog pond.
5. Bird tree.
6. Piano quietly.
7. Children working.
8. Drink cup tea.