

Qno.1: Difference b/w sentence and Proposition?

In Philosophy, particularly in logic and semantics, the term sentence and proposition are used to distinguish the linguistic expression of a thought and thought itself.

Sentence: A sentence is a grammatical unit of language that expresses a complete thought. It is a string of words that follows the syntactic rule of a language.

On the basis of semantic, sentence can be declarative, interrogative, imperative, exclamatory, or optative.

These are linguistic entities and can vary in structure, tone and style depending upon language and context.

① Declarative Sentence:

A declarative sentence makes a statement or expresses a fact or opinion.

Examples:

→ The sun rises in the east.

→ The sky is blue

② Imperative Sentence:

An imperative sentence gives a command, makes a request, or provides instructions.

Examples:

→ Close the door

→ please pass the salt.

③ Interrogative Sentence:

An Interrogative sentence asks a Question.

Examples:

→ What time is it?

→ What is your name?

④ Exclamatory Sentence:

An exclamatory sentence expresses strong emotion, feeling or surprise.

Examples:

→ What a great idea.

→ What a beautiful sunset.

⑤ Optative Sentence:

An optative sentence expresses a wish or hope.

Optative sentence can be end with a period or by an exclamation mark.

Examples:

May you have a wonderful day.

May you succeed.

[P] Proposition:

A proposition itself is not more than sentence but a special kind of a sentence having special attributions.

→ A proposition is a statement that asserts or denies something.

→ Proposition can be either true or false

→ Proposition is the meaning or content expressed by declarative sentence

→ Proposition is abstract nature and it is not tied to specific language. different sentence can express the same proposition.

eg The sky is blue (English)

آسمان نیلا ہے (اردو)

آسمان شین ہے. (پشتو)

All these three sentences express the same things that "the sky is blue"

Similarly, different sentences can express same proposition.

eg Ali gives a book to Maryam.

Maryam ~~is~~ gives a book by Ali.

This all discussion means that all propositions are sentences but not all sentences are proposition. In life, we not only use declarative sentences but also use other types of sentences as described early which are sentences but not proposition. It means sentence is a broader class and proposition is a sub-class of the broader class.