Prepositional Phrases & Sentence Patterns

Name: _____ Date: _____

Instructions. Put parentheses around every prepositional phrase first. Then write the pattern beside each sentence: **P1 = SN V** (the verb has no object) or **P2 = SN VT DO** (the verb passes its action to a direct object). Finally, label each word above it with the labels below. One sentence fits neither pattern. Can you find it?

Dogs jump. → SN V, **P1** **Dogs chase the ball.** → SN VT DO, **P2**

SN subject noun	**P** preposition	**A** article adjective (a, an, the)
V verb with no object	**OP** object of the preposition	**ADJ** adjective **ADV** adverb
VT transitive verb	**DO** direct object	**PPA** possessive pronoun adjective (my, his, our)

1. The gray kitten naps under the porch. Pattern _____
2. A tall boy kicks the muddy ball. Pattern _____
3. The yellow bus stops near the school. Pattern _____
4. Our new puppy digs in the garden. Pattern _____
5. My brother reads a long comic. Pattern _____
6. The red kite floats above the trees. Pattern _____
7. A kind nurse carries the heavy tray. Pattern _____
8. Her silver ring shines in the sunlight. Pattern _____
9. A curious crab crawls across wet sand. Pattern _____
10. The little goat climbs over the fence. Pattern _____
11. The coach draws a play on the whiteboard. Pattern _____
12. A busy bee hums around the flowers. Pattern _____
13. The quiet librarian stacks the thick books. Pattern _____
14. Their old barn smells musty and damp. Pattern _____
15. A small boat drifts along the shore. Pattern _____
16. The hungry fox waits behind the bushes. Pattern _____
17. The sleepy baby yawns after the bath. Pattern _____
18. His cousin paints the wooden fence. Pattern _____
19. The brown owl hoots at the moon. Pattern _____
20. A tired hiker rests beside the river. Pattern _____

Answer Key

Parentheses mark each prepositional phrase. P1 = SN V. P2 = SN VT DO. Sentence 14 is the odd one out: *smells* is a linking verb (LV) that connects the subject to a description, a predicate adjective (PA), so it fits neither pattern.

1. A ADJ SN V P A OP
   The gray kitten naps (under the porch). — **P1 · SN V**
2. A ADJ SN VT A ADJ DO
   A tall boy kicks the muddy ball. — **P2 · SN VT DO**
3. A ADJ SN V P A OP
   The yellow bus stops (near the school). — **P1 · SN V**
4. PPA ADJ SN V P A OP
   Our new puppy digs (in the garden). — **P1 · SN V**
5. PPA SN VT A ADJ DO
   My brother reads a long comic. — **P2 · SN VT DO**
6. A ADJ SN V P A OP
   The red kite floats (above the trees). — **P1 · SN V**
7. A ADJ SN VT A ADJ DO
   A kind nurse carries the heavy tray. — **P2 · SN VT DO**
8. PPA ADJ SN V P A OP
   Her silver ring shines (in the sunlight). — **P1 · SN V**
9. A ADJ SN V P ADJ OP
   A curious crab crawls (across wet sand). — **P1 · SN V**
10. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    The little goat climbs (over the fence). — **P1 · SN V**
11. A SN VT A DO P A OP
    The coach draws a play (on the whiteboard). — **P2 · SN VT DO**
12. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    A busy bee hums (around the flowers). — **P1 · SN V**
13. A ADJ SN VT A ADJ DO
    The quiet librarian stacks the thick books. — **P2 · SN VT DO**
14. PPA ADJ SN LV PA C PA
    Their old barn smells musty and damp. — **Neither ★ (SN LV PA)**
15. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    A small boat drifts (along the shore). — **P1 · SN V**
16. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    The hungry fox waits (behind the bushes). — **P1 · SN V**
17. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    The sleepy baby yawns (after the bath). — **P1 · SN V**
18. PPA SN VT A ADJ DO
    His cousin paints the wooden fence. — **P2 · SN VT DO**
19. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    The brown owl hoots (at the moon). — **P1 · SN V**
20. A ADJ SN V P A OP
    A tired hiker rests (beside the river). — **P1 · SN V**