The 80/20 JAPANESE Guide To
Japanese Sentence Structure

Confusing particle pairs
- **Topic は**
  - Defines topic of a sentence
  - Emphasises info after it
  - Clarifies context for what follows
- **Subject が**
  - Defines doer of the action
  - Emphasises info before it
  - Contains new or important info
- **Location で**
  - Defines where something is
  - Used with verbs of action
  - Defines where action takes place
  - Contains new or important info
- **Location of existence に**
  - Defines where something exists
- **End-point まで**
  - Defines a place something is moving to
  - A destination can also be a direction (eg. you can move in the direction of a place, such as 'home'), but a direction is not always a destination (eg. 'north' is not a place you can go to).

Adverbs
- **Adverb**
  - Includes:
    - Regular descriptive adverbs
      - はやく - たのしゅう
      - しごてに - はに
    - Time-related adverbs
      - まったたく - ときどき
      - じきににことに
    - Duration
      - いちかいに - じゅうじかん
      - いたんじゅうに
  - Treat particle に as part of the adverb, as it would not be an adverb without it.

Examples
- **Taro played baseball at the park on Sunday.**
  - Topic たろう
  - Location こうえん
  - Time にちようび
  - Verb しました
- **There was a monkey at the zoo until yesterday.**
  - Location どうぶえん
  - Location of existence に
  - End-point まのう
  - Verb いました
- **Next week, I will go to Kyoto with my friend by train.**
  - Topic らしいゅう
  - Location こにし
  - Time に
  - Verb いきます
- **Eriko is quietly reading a book in the library now.**
  - Topic えりこ
  - Adverb しまして
  - Location としょかん
  - Verb います
- **The teacher walks from the station to school every day.**
  - Location だんじょう
  - Location of existence に
  - Origin から
  - Destination がっこう
  - Verb あるいます

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