SENTENCE FORMATS

1. S—V

   a. MacReady ran.
   b. MacReady ran briskly.
   c. MacReady ran briskly to the med lab.

2. S—V—DO (direct object)

   a. Blair examined the remains.
   b. Blair examined the burned remains.
   c. Blair examined the charred remains of the Thing.

3. S—V—IO—DO (indirect object and direct object)

   a. Fuchs handed Copper a scalpel.
   b. Fuchs handed Copper a surgical scalpel.
   c. Fuchs handed Copper a surgical scalpel in the med lab.

4. S—LV—PA (linking verb and predicate adjective)

   a. Norris was becoming sickened.
   b. Norris was becoming increasingly sickened.
   c. Norris was becoming ever more sickened, doubling over in pain.

5. S—LV—PN (linking verb and predicate nominative)

   a. Copper was the research station doctor.
   b. The relatively reserved Copper was the research station doctor.
   c. The relatively reserved Copper was the research station doctor, a task not readily apparent from his dress.

All clauses in English are one of the five formats above, every single one of them.

Verb classifications—i. (intransitive)—must not take an object
                     v. (transitive)—must take an object

1, 4, 5—intransitive verbs
2, 3—transitive verbs

I do not concern about my grade. (X) S—V
I am not concerned about my grade. (0) S—V
My grade does not concern me. (0) S—V—DO (concern is both i. and t.)

SENTENCE PATTERNS

1. Simple Sentence—All one-clause formats like the five above as a single sentence.

2. Compound Sentence (strategies of coordination—two clauses)

   a. IC, CC IC. (Independent Clause, Coordinating Conjunction Independent Clause)

      MacReady ran briskly to the med lab, and he torched Norris-thing. (S—V, CC S—V—DO).

   b. IC; IC. (Independent Clause; Independent Clause—usually related clauses)

      Blair took the gun from his desk; it signaled he would no longer be able to trust the rest of the crew. (S—V—DO; S—V—DO [noun clause as direct object])

   c. IC; CA, IC. (Independent Clause; Conjunctive Adverb, Independent Clause)

      Windows saw Bennings being transformed into the Thing; as a result, he ran to meet MacReady and Fuchs. (S—V—DO [noun phrase—gerund]; CA, S—V—DO [verb = "ran to meet"; compound direct object])

Two sentence errors in coordination:

1. Comma splice

MacReady ran briskly to the med lab, he torched Norris-thing. (X) (coordinating conjunction missing)

2. Run-on sentence (fused sentence)

MacReady ran briskly to the med lab and he torched Norris-thing. (X) (comma omitted)

List of Coordinating Conjunctions (BOYFANS)

1. But
2. Or
3. Yet
4. For
5. And
6. Nor
7. So

3. Complex Sentence (strategies of subordination—two clauses)

    a. SC DC, IC. (Subordinating Conjunction Dependent Clause, Independent Clause)

Since the blood test would involve each of the crewmembers, MacReady forced them to sit tied to a couch. (SC S—V—DO, S—V—DO [closing with infinitive phrase])

    b. IC SC DC. (Independent Clause Subordinating Conjunction Dependent Clause.

MacReady forced the crew to sit tied to a couch since the blood test would involve each of them. (S—V—DO SC S—V—DO)

One sentence error in subordination:

    Sentence Fragment

Since the blood test would involve each of the crewmembers.

4. Compound-Complex Sentence (strategies of subordination and coordination—three clauses)

    a. SC DC, IC, CC IC.

    b. SC DC, IC; IC.

    c. SC DC, IC; CA, IC.

    d. IC, CC IC SC DC.

    e. IC; IC SC DC.

    f. IC; CA, IC SC DC.

On the one side, John Carpenter's *The Thing* is a horrifying conjuring of a desolate world; a shape-shifting alien threatens all of humanity by assimilating and converting it into its basic substance and expansive and imperial motivation although the more latent horror reflects a loss of trust emanating from post-Vietnam America manifested in the growing antagonism between crew members in the film.