

Rewriting Cleft Sentences

“Cleft” means divided. A **cleft sentence** is used to emphasize a particular part of a sentence. In a cleft sentence, one element of the sentence is shifted from its normal place in the sentence into a separate clause.



NORMAL SENTENCE: The pigeon is in love with popcorn.

CLEFT SENTENCE: It is popcorn the pigeon is in love with.

DIRECTIONS: Rewrite each sentence below to be a cleft sentence.

1. Linda doesn't like pizza.
2. The boys spray-painted the gymnasium wall.
3. My mother made the chocolate cake.
4. Mike is unhappy in his job.
5. The HP computer doesn't work.
6. The commuter bus is late.
7. On Monday it rained.
8. That company made her a better offer.
9. The women were gossiping.