

Status

The committee wants to organise another informal vote on SVO vs VSO to figure out which to send to an Official Vote. We previously had a vote on this which resulted in a tie. Since then, there's been a lot of discussion and various changes to the language have been officialized. We're hoping that the community now has a better idea of what base word order will work best for our language. Please help contribute to this document for the next informal vote.

SVO

Advantages

- The verb (V) separates the subject (S) and the object (O) apart for simple distinction within individual sentences.
- Since subjects and objects come on opposite sides of the verb, we can remove either one without leaving ambiguity as to whether the remaining word is the subject or the object. On the other hand, with VSO, if you remove the subject or the object, it becomes ambiguous whether the remaining word is the subject or the object because either can appear before the verb when looking at individual sentences.
- The second most common word order.
- Common in creoles.

Disadvantages

VSO

Advantages

- The verb (V) separates sentences.
- Since subjects and objects come on the same side of the verb, we can remove either one without leaving ambiguity as to which sentence the remaining word is part of. On the other hand, with SVO, if you remove the subject or the object, it becomes ambiguous which sentence the remaining word is the part of because the word can be either a subject or an object.
- The verb (V) is at the beginning of clauses, making it easy to know where new clauses start.

Disadvantages