

# Syntax

## Consider:

When I am too sad and too skinny to keep keeping, when I am a tiny thing against so many bricks, then it is I look at trees.

— Sandra Cisneros, *The House on Mango Street*

## Discuss:

1. What kind of grammatical structure is repeated in this sentence? What is the effect of the repetition?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. This is a periodic sentence, a sentence which delays the subject and verb to the end. What idea is emphasized by the end-focus in this sentence?

## Apply:

Write a periodic sentence about getting a bad grade on a test. Use Cisneros' sentence as a model. Share your sentence with a partner.