

Kinds of Sentences

- A declarative sentence makes a statement or expresses an opinion and ends with a period.
 - Ex: Whales are the largest animals in the world today.
 - Ex: Whales probably are not afraid of people.
- An interrogative sentence asks a question and ends with a question mark.
 - Ex: Have you ever seen a live whale?
- An imperative sentence makes a request or gives a command and ends with a period or an exclamation point.
 - Ex: Watch out for that whale approaching our boat!
- An exclamatory sentence expresses a strong feeling and ends with an exclamation point.
 - What a huge animal the whale is!

Subjects and Predicates

- A sentence is a group of words that expresses a complete thought.
 - A sentence must have two basic parts – a subject and a predicate.
 - The subject names the person, place, or thing the sentence is about.
 - The predicate tells something about the subject.

Complete Subjects

- A complete subject includes all the words used to identify the person, place, thing, or idea that the sentence is about.
 - To find the complete subject, ask yourself, *Who or what is doing something?* or *About whom or what is some statement being made?*

Simple Subjects

- A simple subject is the main word in the complete subject.
 - Answers the question *Who or what is going something?* or *About whom or what is some statement being made?*
- Sometimes the simple subject can have more than one word. Usually these subjects are the names of persons or places.

Complete predicates

- A complete predicate includes all the words that tell what the subject is doing, or that tell something about the subject.
 - To find a complete predicate, first find the subject. Then ask yourself, *What is the subject doing?* or *What is being said about the subject?*

Simple predicates or Verbs

- A simple predicate, or verb, is the main word or phrase in the complete predicate.
- Verbs that tell what a subject is doing are *action verbs*. Action verbs can show physical action, mental action, or ownership.
 - Ex: The fire engine **raced** down the street. [What is the main word in the complete predicate? What did the subject do? The verb is *raced*.]
- The main verb and one or more helping verbs make up a **verb phrase**.
- There is a list of common helping verbs on page 11 of your grammar book.
 - Ex: The squirrel is gathering nuts for the winter. [*is gathering* is the verb phrase]

Position of Subjects

- A sentence is in **natural order** when the subject comes before the verb.
 - Ex: Six mechanics restored the old plane.
- A sentence is in **inverted order** when the verb or part of the verb phrase comes before the subject. To find the subject in such a sentence, turn the sentence around to its natural order.
 - Ex: From deep in the forest echoed a screech.
Natural order – A screech echoed from deep in the forest.

- Questions are usually written in inverted order. To find the subject in such a question, turn the question into a statement
Ex: Is the alarm set for six o'clock?
The alarm is set for six o'clock.
- A question beginning with *here* or *there* is in inverted order. To find the subject in such a sentence, turn the sentence around to its natural order.
Ex: Here are the actors.
The actors are here.
There is some soup in the pot.
Some soup is in the pot. [Sometimes *there* must be dropped for the sentence to make sense.]

Understood Subjects

- The subject *you* is not stated in a command or request. *You* is called an *understood subject*.
Ex: (you) Wait for me in the library.

Compound Subjects

- A **compound subject** is two or more subjects in one sentence that have the same verb and are joined by a conjunction.
Ex: Apples and oranges grow on trees.
- Pairs of conjunctions such as *either/or*, *neither/nor*, or *both/and* may also join the parts of a compound subject.
Ex: Sasha nor Keith had read the letter.

Compound Verbs

- A **compound verb** is two or more verbs that have the same subject and are joined by the conjunction *and*, *or*, or *but*.
Ex: The runner glanced back and darted sideways.