

SUBJECT AND PREDICATE



Subject vs Predicate

The subject of the sentence is what (or whom) the sentence is about.

The term '**subject**' refers to the doer of the action in a sentence. It is either a noun, a pronoun, or a noun phrase.

EXAMPLE: The cat is sleeping in the sun
-the word *cat* is the subject.

A predicate contains the verb that represents the **action done** by the subject, **the receiver of the action**, **other information about the subject**, the verb or the time/place of the action and so on

EXAMPLE:

The cat is sleeping in the sun.

The clause *sleeping in the sun* is the predicate; it's dictating what the cat is doing.

Can you identify the subject and predicate?

1. He reads.

→ The subject is *he*, and the predicate is *reads*.

2. He reads the book.

→ The subject is still *he*, but the predicate has some extra words: *reads the book*. Since it's still modifying the subject and contains a verb, it's still serving the same function.

3. He reads the book in the park on Tuesdays.

→ It's still *he*! The predicate is slightly more complicated: *reads the book in the park on Tuesdays*.

4. Maria's sisters are going to the pool.

—>The subject in this sentence isn't Maria, even though at first glance it seems like it is. This sentence is actually about **Maria's sisters**; they are the subject. The predicate is **are going to the pool** because it shows what the sisters are doing.

5. Aileen really liked the piece of artwork because it reminded her of her childhood.

—>**Aileen** is the subject. Likewise, "**it**" is also a subject. This sentence has two parts, and *because* joins the two. **Aileen** is the subject of the predicate **really liked the piece of artwork**. **It** is the subject of the predicate **reminded her of her childhood**.

6. “There” is Not the Subject

Another example to watch for is a sentence that begins with “there” and has a form of the verb “to be.” Even though the word “there” is at the beginning of the sentence, next to the verb, it is not the subject. See if you can find the subject and predicate in this sentence:

There were three different desserts arranged on the table. First find the verb: “were arranged.” Then ask, “who or what were arranged?” The answer is “three different desserts,” which is the correct subject.

7. Sentences which do not begin with the subject

The subject may not always appear in the beginning of the sentence. It can come after the predicate.

For example: Here comes the bus.

“The bus” is the subject and “here comes” is the predicate.

8.Hidden subject

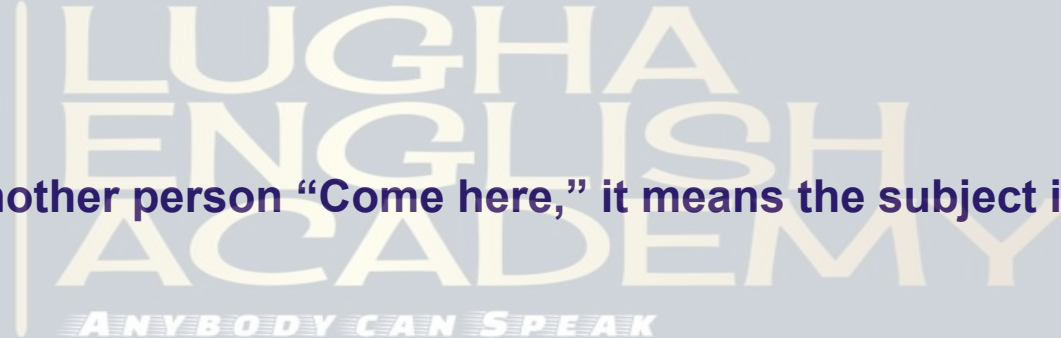
Subject can be hidden in some sentences.

In imperative sentences (sentences which give a command or an order),the subject is “you”.

For example: Come here.

Here,when one is telling another person “Come here,” it means the subject is the 2nd person who is listening.

In such sentences, the subject is you and it is understood.



Examples of Subject

Go through the following sentences. The subject in each sentence has been underlined for your reference.

- Marina Beach is one of the famous beaches in South India.
- Sujith and Sonia are cousins.
- The girl staying opposite my house is working at Hindustan Unilever.
- Anish dances well, and his brother is a poet.
- We visited Hampi last week.
- Will Joey, Ross and Chandler come for dinner tonight?
- The final dance would be performed by the final-year students.
- Buckingham Palace is the official residence of the Queen of England.
- It was raining yesterday.
- Can you help me?

Examples of Predicate:

- We work from Monday to Friday.
- Krishna is my best friend.
- Nalini and her daughter go for a walk every morning.
- We were feeling hungry but continued working.
- My train starts from Coimbatore North Junction at 10:40 p.m.
- They had masala dosa for breakfast.
- The road has been blocked for weeks due to some construction work.
- The bear sat with his head bowed down.
- Niya, Diya and Riya went on a jeep safari.
- Dan's laptop hasn't been working since yesterday.

Types of Subject:

The subject is the Part of the sentence that talks about the noun which refers to the person or thing doing the action in the form of verbs. There are three types of subjects, these are:

1. Simple Subject
2. Complete Subject
3. Compound Subject

Types of Subject		
Types	Meaning	Example
Simple Subject	Part of the sentence which has only subject	<i>Jhanvi</i> is playing the guitar and singing at the party.
Complete Subject	Part of the sentence has a subject with a modifier.	<i>The old man</i> took a deep breath and then started the story.
Compound Subject	Part of the sentence has two or more subjects joined with the help of a conjunction	<i>Cricket and Football</i> are my favorite sports.

Types of Predicate :

The Predicate is the part of the sentence that tells something about the subject. There are three types of Predicate, they are:

- 1. Simple Predicate
- 2. Complete Predicate
- 3. Compound Predicate

Types of Predicate		
Types	Meaning	Example
Simple Predicate	Part of the sentence has only a verb.	The dog <i>is running through the empty field.</i>
Complete Predicate	Part of the sentence has verbs with a modifier.	Rohan and his sister Suzanne <i>never wanted costly gifts but preferred simple things.</i>
Compound Predicate	Part of the sentence has two or more verbs with a conjunction.	<i>I love the way he plays the guitar, but his singing makes my ears bleed.</i>

A. Identify the subject and predicate in the following sentences.

1. A cat was sleeping under the parked car.

2. I received three new dresses for my birthday.

3. My son started walking today.

4. We had to wash our clothes.

5. I missed my bus yesterday.

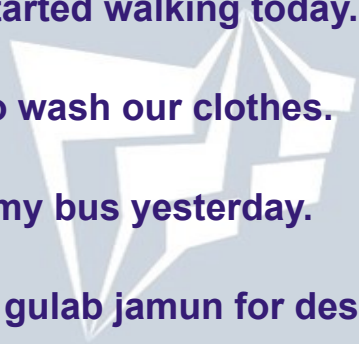
6. They had gulab jamun for dessert.

7. She invited all her friends to her wedding.

8. Three children did not go on the field trip organised by the school.

9. The teacher asked the students to stay quiet.

10. It started raining around noon.



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B. Identify the subject and the predicate in the following sentences.

1. The sun was shining brightly.
2. The dogs were barking loudly.
3. The pretty girl was wearing a blue frock.
4. My younger brother serves in the army.
5. The man and his wife were working in their garden.
6. We will no longer tolerate this.
7. The little tree was covered with needles instead of leaves.
8. A rich merchant was passing by the shoemaker's window.



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C.Simple Subjects and Simple Predicates:

- 1. The results of the test are inconclusive.**
- 2. There have been many incidents of vandalism in the past.**
- 3. Why did he take the new car back to the dealer?**
- 4. My name was written on the document in three places.**
- 5. By the saucer of milk sat a very scrawny cat.**
- 6. She will be going to the dentist's office later this afternoon.**
- 7. Remarkably, the patient with the shattered skull survived the surgery.**
- 8. All citizens in the United States must complete a tax return each year.**
- 9. With prices so low, I should have bought a few more toothbrushes.**
- 10. Will Joe be taking his golf clubs on this trip?**

D. Read each sentence. Circle the complete subject. Underline the simple subject.

- 1. My whole family had a picnic on Saturday.
- 2. The warm, sunny day was perfect for an outing in the park.
- 3. My cousin Fred brought his guitar and harmonica.
- 4. Everyone sang favourite folk songs.
- 5. The people in the park applauded us.

E. Read each sentence. Circle the complete predicate. Underline the simple predicate.

- 1. We watched the space shuttle on TV this morning.
- 2. The huge spaceship rocketed into space at 6:00 A.M.
- 3. During the flight, the six astronauts released a satellite into space.
- 4. The space shuttle Columbia circled Earth for three days.
- 5. The spacecraft landed smoothly on Monday at noon.

F.Underline the subjects and circle the predicates; on the line below, write whether the sentence has a compound subject, a compound predicate, or both.

- 1. James mowed lawns and delivered papers over the summer.
- 2. Chris and his older sister helped their mother around the house.
- 3. He or she could tell you.
- 4. We went to the store and bought candy.
- 5. Jameka and Darneka are twins.
- 6. My friend and I are happy at the mall.
- 7. The students took notes and asked questions.
- 8. Tim and several other students started a club.
- 9. Mr. Morton and his students study hard and learn a lot.
- 10. I woke up, brushed my hair and my teeth, and went to school.



Additional worksheets



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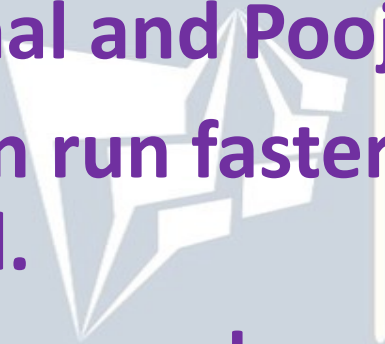
Identify the type of subject:

1. My friend loves to ride horses.
2. The restaurant gives away free pizza on Fridays.
3. Priya's little brother wants to play basketball with him.
4. The lamp on the old table is very dusty.
5. Apples and oranges are healthy evening snacks.
6. Mary and Thomas are twins.
7. Fog and mist covered the land.

Identify the type of predicate:

1. The teacher graded the homework papers.
2. They were singing in the park.
3. He can take a cooking class or learn how to sew.
4. My parents drink coffee and read the newspaper every morning.
5. Diana bought a flower at the store and gave it to her teacher.

6. They sat on the beach but couldn't seem to relax.
7. I walk to school every morning with my mom and dog.
8. Vimal and Pooja went for a movie at midnight.
9. I can run faster than any other student at my school.
10. You may have a little trouble with the lock.



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Circle the simple subjects and underline the predicates:

1. My friend Priya is coming to the party.

2. The old man walked slowly.

3. The carnival will begin next week.

4. We, the sixth-grade students visited the park yesterday.

5. Divya will be staying in a hotel.



Underline the complete subjects and circle the predicates:

1. The flower from the garden smelled wonderful.

2. The loud, shrill voice on the playground hurt my ears.

3. The beautiful red and blue birds were singing up in the trees.

4. The peaceful white and blue sailboat cruised into the harbor.

5. Houses along my street are decorated for Diwali.

Underline the compound subject and circle the predicate:

1. Janvi and Aaliya went to the store.

2. Pizza and burgers are their favourite foods.

3. The teacher and the students celebrated the end of the school year.

4. Chocolate or vanilla ice cream? You decide.

5. The fish and the turtles swam in the pond.

Underline the simple predicate:

- 1.They were singing in the park.
- 2.The dog created a mess when i was gone.
- 4.The earth rotates on its axis.

Underline the compound predicate :

- 1.The little red hen sat for days on her eggs and finally hatched five chicks.
- 2.I studied all night for my math test and slept through the exam.
- 3.Mom searched through her cookbook and found a recipe for plum pudding.

Underline the complete predicates:

- 1.The tree branches swayed in the afternoon wind.
- 2.The three wild horses gallop through that big field over there.
- 3.The water in the pool felt chilly on a hot day.