

Name _____

Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The words that tell whom or what the sentence is about are the **complete subject**. The most important word in the complete subject is the **simple subject**. It is usually a noun or a pronoun. Some simple subjects have more than one word, such as *Kansas City*.

Many families moved west in the 1840s. The simple subject is *families*.

The words that tell what the subject is or does are the **complete predicate**. The most important word in the complete predicate is the **simple predicate**, or the verb. Some simple predicates have more than one word, such as *is walking*.

The trip could take up to six months. The simple predicate is *could take*.

A **fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject or a predicate.

Had to carry everything with them. This fragment lacks a subject.

A **run-on** is two or more complete sentences run together.

The settlers needed food they needed tools.

Directions Underline each simple subject once. Underline each simple predicate twice.

1. A tornado's shape is like a funnel.
2. The deadly funnel measures up to a mile wide.
3. They are unpredictable in their movements.
4. Settlers feared the awful twister.

Directions Write *F* after a fragment. Write *R* after a run-on. Then correct the sentence errors. Write a complete sentence or two complete sentences on the lines.

5. The wind inside a tornado _____

6. A tornado can be called a twister it is also sometimes called a cyclone. _____



Home Activity Your child learned about subjects and predicates. Talk about a storm you and your child have experienced. Have your child write several sentences about the storm and identify the complete and simple subjects and predicates in each sentence.

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Directions Use each noun and verb pair as the simple subject and simple predicate. Add words to make a complete sentence. Underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

1. tall tales include

2. hero is

3. stories make

4. Pecos Bill lassoed

5. Paul Bunyan rode

Directions This paragraph contains fragments and a run-on. Rewrite the paragraph. Add words and punctuation to make sure every sentence has a subject and a predicate.

Davy Crockett was a real person he was also the hero of many tall tales. A good frontiersman and hunter. Killed a bear when he was only three. This “king of the wild frontier.”



Home Activity Your child learned how to write sentences that have subjects and predicates. Name a familiar person. Have your child write three sentences about the person and underline the subject and circle the predicate in each sentence.

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Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

Directions Mark the letter of the sentence in which the simple subject and simple predicate are correctly underlined.

- A Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.
 B Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.
 C Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.
 D Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.
- A The great herds moved along slowly.
 B The great herds moved along slowly.
 C The great herds moved along slowly.
 D The great herds moved along slowly.
- A These large animals must graze for hours each day.
 B These large animals must graze for hours each day.
 C These large animals must graze for hours each day.
 D These large animals must graze for hours each day.
- A They needed a vast supply of water.
 B They needed a vast supply of water.
 C They needed a vast supply of water.
 D They needed a vast supply of water.
- A Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.
 B Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.
 C Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.
 D Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.

Directions Mark the letter of the group of words that has a subject and a predicate.

- A Crossed dangerously swift rivers.
 B In the dark of night under the light of the moon.
 C The cowboys also protected the cattle from predators.
 D Sleeping in shifts on the hard ground.
- A A cowboy's horse.
 B For miles in the hot, dusty country.
 C They shared water and companionship.
 D Became a best friend and a well-loved co-worker.
- A A well-made hat was a prized possession.
 B Also a sturdy saddle and bridle.
 C Tough leather chaps for the legs.
 D Protected the cowboy's face from heat and dust.



Home Activity Your child prepared for taking tests on subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Circle a paragraph in the newspaper. Have your child identify the subject and predicate of each sentence in the paragraph.

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Directions Draw a line between the complete subject and the complete predicate in each sentence. Circle the simple subject and the simple predicate.

1. A blacksmith was important to the pioneer community.
2. People called this metal worker a smithy.
3. He could mend a plow or tools.
4. The powerful man pounded steel on his anvil.
5. Fascinated children watched the smithy at work.

Directions Identify the part of the sentence that is underlined. Write *complete subject*, *simple subject*, *complete predicate*, or *simple predicate*.

6. Patient oxen were once beasts of burden. _____
7. A pair of oxen might pull a wagon. _____
8. These big animals could plow all day. _____
9. The farmer walked along behind. _____

Directions: Write *F* if a group of words is a fragment. Write *R* if it is a run-on sentence. Rewrite each one to make a complete sentence or a compound sentence.

10. Barbed wire was invented in Illinois it quickly became popular all over the United States. _____

11. Fenced in their cattle. _____

12. These fences kept cattle in and rustlers out cattle injured themselves on the fences at first. _____



Home Activity Your child reviewed subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Ask your child to make a note card for each term with the definition on one side and an example on the other.