Unit 1: Subjects, Predicates, Types of Sentences

Subjects & Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. A **subject** is who or what the sentence is about, and the **predicate** describes what the subject is doing or saying. The predicate is always the verb in the sentence.

A **simple subject** is the main word in the subject.

A **simple predicate** is the main word in the predicate.

Example:

The tall, green hat blocked the view of many people.

The tall green hat is the **subject**, but hat is the **simple subject**.

Blocked the view of many people is the **predicate**, but blocked is the **simple predicate** (the verb).

*Directions: Circle the simple subject and underline the simple predicate in each sentence.*

Example: **Sherry** (subject) listened (predicate) to the directions attentively.

1. Shama exercises every day.
2. Children at the party scrambled for balloons.
3. My brother met his best friend before the movie.
4. The cactus grows in the desert.
5. The full moon shined between the clouds.

Sentences could also have compound subjects and compound predicates.

A **compound subject** has two or more subjects joined by *and*, *or*, or *nor*.

A **compound predicate** has two or more verbs in the sentence.

*Directions: Circle the compound subjects and/or compound predicates in the following sentences*

1. The red and blue cars led the pack.
2. The red car skidded but stayed ahead.
3. My brother and my sister met their friends and went to a movie.
4. The cactus, the century plant, and sagebrush grow in the desert.
5. Jamaul shoots baskets and tosses rings during gym class.

Sentence Fragments

A **sentence** is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. A sentence consists of a **subject** and a **predicate**. A group of words that do not have both parts and does not express a complete thought is called a **sentence fragment**.

Directions: decide whether each group of words is a sentence (S) or a fragment (F)

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Daniel can come.
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_ I didn’t know that.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Went to the store.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Singing loudly all day.
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Once they get here.
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_ What time will they be here?
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_ A high quality car.
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_ The thunder scared us all.
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Didn’t have a care in the world.
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Any day they want to come.

Types of Sentences

There are 4 types of sentences:

A **declarative sentence** makes a statement. It end with a period.

Mexico has many pyramids.

An **interrogative sentence** asks a question. It ends with a question mark.

How old is this pyramid?

An **exclamatory sentence** expresses a strong feeling.

How steep the sides are!

An **imperative sentence** gives a command or makes a request. It ends with a period.

Take a photo of this scene.

*Directions: decide whether each of these groups of words is a sentence or a fragment. If it is a sentence, decide which type it is.*

1. What a long day I had! \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Juyong, too. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. The full moon is shining between the clouds. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Did you turn off the lights? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. Remember to bring an umbrella. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
6. On the third shelf. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: add words to each sentence fragment to form the kind of sentence indicated next to it. Add the correct punctuation as well.*

1. The natives of North America (declarative) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. After school today (imperative) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Finished your homework (interrogative) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Great concert (exclamatory) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Directions: write in the blank if the sentence is declarative (dec), interrogative (int), exclamatory (exc), or imperative (imp)*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Can you help me with my algebra?
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_ I’m going swimming today.
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Don’t stay up too late.
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Watch out for that low branch.
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_ I can’t wait until Grandma gets here!
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Have you met Danielle yet?
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Akira doesn’t like scary movies.
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Clean up your desk.
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_ What a terrific day we had at the zoo!
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_ Janice and Shawna went to the movies last night.

Simple & Compound Sentences

A **simple sentence** has one subject and one predicate. The subject and the predicate in a simple sentence may be simple or compound.

Oscar fed the dog

Oscar and Cathy fed and groomed the dog.

A **compound sentence** has two or more simple sentences joined by a semicolon, or a comma and a coordinating conjunction.

To remember coordinating conjunctions, think of FANBOYS: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.

Two or more simple sentences joined incorrectly result in a **run-on sentence**.

*Directions: write S in the blank before each simple sentence, C before each compound sentence, and R before each run-on sentence.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ The trumpets blared, and the king entered the room.
2. \_\_\_\_\_Ketchup makes French fries taste better.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I walked and walked for days.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Hydrogen has weight, but you cannot weigh it on an ordinary scale.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Air is taken into the lungs oxygen is absorbed into the bloodstream.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ You can buy your ticket in advance, or you can buy it at the door.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ Radar detects objects in darkness and bad weather.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Humans can’t see well in the dark, nor can they hear sounds more than about 1 km away.

**REVIEW / QUIZ**

*PART 1: Circle the subject and underline the predicate (could be compound) in each sentence.*

1. An American developed the laser in 1960.
2. The Canadian flag bears a red maple leaf.
3. The flags of Italy and Hungary share the same colors
4. Scott Joplin received a special Pulitzer Prize in 1976.
5. Amphibians and reptiles are cold-blooded animals.
6. Chicago and Atlanta have busy airports.
7. A galaxy is a system of stars, dust, and gas.
8. Nina and Robin wore blue jeans to school on Friday
9. Warm air and cool air rise and descend every day.
10. The carpenters painted and wallpapered the bedroom and the hallway.

*PART 2: Write declarative, interrogative, exclamatory or imperative in the blank to identify the kind of sentence. Add the punctuation for each sentence. Write fragment if it is a fragment.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Bring me a glass of water, please \_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ On Tuesday, the choir leaves for Europe \_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Our area has received twelve inches of snow \_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Which person concealed the evidence \_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ What a mess that puppy made \_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ On a day everyone could be there \_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Sit over here away from the door \_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Brianna was promoted to editor of the paper ­­­\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Have you ever tried fly fishing \_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ This ride is making me dizzy \_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Meet us outside the restaurant at 11:30 \_\_\_

PART 3: Write “S” If it is a simple sentence or “C” if it is a compound sentence. If it is a compound sentence, circle the coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS).

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Dan likes to race his car, but he should think about safety.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I know exactly where I put my wallet, but I still can’t find it.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ The boys basketball team ran laps and shot baskets until game time.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ We went to a restaurant, but it closed early.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ Do all of your homework, or else you will fall behind.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I love to draw, and my friends love to color in art class.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ I didn’t study much, yet I still passed my exam.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Shelly cooked a delicious dinner for everyone, even the teachers.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ Jason didn’t want to ride his bike outside because it was raining.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ I don’t have much money, so I can’t afford the new game.