

Assessing Language: Grade 7

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Simple Subjects & Predicates

The **simple subject** is the person or thing the sentence is about. It does not include any articles or words that modify it.

EXAMPLES: The young **boy** in the yellow suit swam across the pool.
 The tall **lifeguard** was watching the swimmers in the pool.

The **simple predicate** tells what the subject is or does. The simple predicate is the verb or verb phrase without any words that describe or modify it.

EXAMPLES: The young boy in the yellow suit **swam** across the pool.
 The tall lifeguard **was watching** the swimmers in the pool.

In the following sentences, write the simple subjects and the simple predicates under the correct column.

	Subject	Predicate
1. The hot sand burned my feet.	_____	_____
2. Light, fluffy clouds drifted across the sky.	_____	_____
3. The purple umbrella turned inside out.	_____	_____
4. The fireworks exploded with a bang.	_____	_____
5. The elephants performed in the circus.	_____	_____
6. Almost every day, we receive some junk mail.	_____	_____
7. The telephone was ringing off the wall!	_____	_____
8. Tiny mosquitoes may carry very bad diseases.	_____	_____
9. The set was designed by the art teacher.	_____	_____
10. The fire trucks rushed to the forest fire.	_____	_____
11. The birthday gifts were chosen with care.	_____	_____
12. Zach, the champion swimmer, won several events at the meet.	_____	_____
13. Amy tried to comfort her father.	_____	_____
14. Alex ran the relay race in record time.	_____	_____

Complete Subjects & Predicates

The **complete subject** of a sentence is the simple subject, plus all the words that modify it.

EXAMPLES: **The blond-haired girl in the pink dress** sang the final song.
Our music teacher, Mr. Arnold, picked the participants for the play.

The **complete predicate** of a sentence is the simple predicate (verb), plus all words that modify it.

EXAMPLES: The blond-haired girl in the pink dress **sang the final song.**
Our music teacher, Mr. Arnold, **picked the participants for the play.**

In each of the following sentences, underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

1. The Brinkleys have a brand-new, flat-screen TV.
2. Our dentist, Dr. Norman, is one of the best in town.
3. Flying over the Atlantic Ocean, the lights and air conditioning went out on our plane.
4. Our neighbors, the Comptons, moved out last week.
5. Anyone who takes in stray animals must have a kind heart.
6. The chemistry vocabulary is very difficult to learn.
7. The club's goal is to sign ten new members.
8. The forest fire raged out of control.
9. The contestants with the best lyrics will win the song-writing contest.
10. The teacher tried several ways to end the discussion.
11. Mother and Father bought several gifts for each of their children.
12. The Mediterranean cruise will last fourteen days.
13. Mr. Roberts, our most able teacher, will teach the course in physiology.
14. The biggest challenge is getting used to the heat and humidity.
15. Overcoming a fear of heights seemed insurmountable.
16. Patrick's hobby is collecting the commemorative coins of the fifty states.

Simple & Compound Sentences

There are four kinds of sentences: simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex. On this sheet we will examine two of them: the **simple sentence** and the **compound sentence**.

A **simple sentence** expresses a complete thought. It is composed of one main or independent clause. It begins with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark, or exclamation point.

EXAMPLE: Barbara returned the book to the library.

I. Punctuate these simple sentences.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. he gave a convincing speech | 4. Everyone arrived on time |
| 2. Is the door to the shed locked | 5. are you fighting a cold |
| 3. marvin is absent today | 6. she sampled the cookies |

A **compound sentence** is composed of two or more main or independent clauses which are closely related. Usually they are joined by a conjunction or a semicolon.

EXAMPLES: Janet led the cheer and everyone joined in. Frank is absent; he has a cold.

II. Punctuate the sentences with either a comma before the conjunction or with a semicolon.

1. The puppy chewed the toy to pieces and then he looked around for another one.
2. Amy drank a full glass of water yet she was still thirsty.
3. The stock report was positive so everyone wanted to buy some shares.
4. Mother and Father were not able to go Grandmother had suddenly taken quite ill.

III. Indicate whether each group of words is a simple sentence (S) or a compound sentence (C). Punctuate wherever necessary.

1. A man's pet might be a snake. _____
2. The highway turned into a parking lot cars were backed up for miles. _____
3. Everyone in the law firm worked on the case. _____
4. Mary saw Michael in the crowd but apparently he didn't see her. _____
5. Wilma purchased an expensive oil painting. _____
6. It was a beautiful summer day the temperature was just perfect. _____