



Complete Subjects and Predicates

Teaching

A **sentence** is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. Every complete sentence has two basic parts: a subject and a predicate.

The **complete subject** includes all the words that tell whom or what the sentence is about.

The rays of the sun give energy to the earth.

The **complete predicate** includes the verb and all the words that tell what the subject is or what the subject does.

Energy is needed for work.

Identifying Complete Subjects and Complete Predicates

Underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

EXAMPLE The energy in food makes our muscles work.

1. People of long ago used animals as a source of energy.
2. Strong animals plowed fields for farmers.
3. Coal, oil, and natural gas are called fossil fuels.
4. Fossil fuels come from the remains of prehistoric plants and animals.
5. The earth contains a limited supply of fossil fuels.
6. Modern humans use fossil fuels more than any other type of energy.
7. Energy from the sun is stored in oil, wood, and coal.
8. Waterfalls or rapids produce energy.
9. Many early cotton mills were built near waterfalls.
10. The energy of the water ran the machinery in the factory.
11. Inventors introduced the steam engine.
12. Hydroelectric plants now make use of water energy in rivers and waterfalls.
13. Many appliances need electrical energy to work.
14. Electricity is necessary for the modern way of life.
15. Wind energy turns windmills.
16. The energy of the wind also moves boats with sails.
17. Solar furnaces collect the sun's rays with mirrors.
18. Solar energy cells can heat a home even in winter.
19. The gasoline engine produces energy for our cars.
20. Nuclear power plants change nuclear energy into electrical energy.
21. All these kinds of energy are important to life on Earth.

Lesson 1

Complete Subjects and Predicates

More Practice

A. Identifying Complete Subjects and Predicates

Draw a vertical line between the complete subject and the complete predicate in each of the following sentences.

EXAMPLE Water power | is an important energy source.

1. Petroleum is the most widely used fossil fuel.
2. The production of electricity and steel requires a large amount of coal.
3. The cleanest fossil fuel is natural gas.
4. Natural gas heats many homes and factories.
5. Solar cells convert the light of the sun into energy.
6. A strong and steady wind is necessary for successful conversion of wind power into energy.
7. Tidal power produces a very small amount of energy.
8. The battery-like fuel cell makes electricity chemically.
9. Some cities get electricity by burning trash.
10. Scientists and engineers are developing better sources of energy for the future.

B. Using Complete Subjects and Predicates

On the line to the right of each item, write how each group of words could be used: **CS** for a complete subject or **CP** for a complete predicate. Then use each group of words in a complete sentence, adding a complete subject or complete predicate as needed.

EXAMPLE bright sunlight *CS*
Bright sunlight streamed through my window this morning.

1. a strong wind

2. floated down the river

3. electric cars

4. wrote a report

Simple Subjects

Teaching

The **simple subject** is the main word or words in the complete subject. Words that describe the subject are not part of the simple subject. In the following sentences, the simple subjects are underlined.

Athletes all over the world enjoy extreme sports.

COMPLETE SUBJECT

COMPLETE PREDICATE

If a proper name is used as the subject, all parts of the name make up the simple subject.

Dr. Evans at the sports clinic treats many sports injuries.

COMPLETE SUBJECT

COMPLETE PREDICATE

Identifying Simple Subjects

Underline the simple subject in each sentence.

1. Extreme sports are a new kind of entertainment.
2. Participants in these sports sometimes ignore the danger.
3. The athletes enjoy the great challenge in each sport.
4. Great skill is needed for mountain biking.
5. The rider travels down a high hill or mountain on a narrow track.
6. A cross-country biker follows a rough course over a long distance.
7. The position of the rider's body is very important in mountain biking.
8. Only brave swimmers use surfboards in giant waves.
9. A new extreme sport is body surfing.
10. The body surfer rides the waves without a board.
11. Both arms of the body surfer must be extended in front.
12. The feet must be together.
13. Body surfers on a wave dive underwater as they get close to the beach.
14. Another popular ocean sport is body boarding.
15. Regular surfers stand on their surfboards.
16. Body boarders lie down on their stomachs.
17. Some athletes do spinners and El Rollos on their body boards.
18. Another extreme sport is skydiving.
19. Several sites on the Internet give information about extreme sports.
20. Sports equipment is also advertised.

Lesson
2

Simple Subjects

More Practice

A. Identifying Simple Subjects

Underline the simple subject in each of the following sentences.

1. The sport of wakeboarding is becoming very popular.
2. The water-skier uses a large board instead of water skis.
3. A powerful boat pulls the wakeboarder across the water.
4. The wakeboarder makes the board do whole and half turns in the water or in the air.
5. Some people consider off-road in-line skating another extreme sport.
6. Great endurance is needed when skating on a beach or over rough ground.
7. Another new sport is snowboarding.
8. The rider of a snowboard stands sideways on the board.
9. An extreme snowboarder goes from the top of a mountain to the bottom using only the snowboard.
10. Falls are very common in this sport.

B. Writing Simple Subjects

Choose one of the following simple subjects to complete each sentence below.

athletes	Cavers	Parachutists	mountaineer
bikes	rafts	stunts	Snowboarders

1. A _____ is a person who climbs the tallest mountains of the world.
2. _____ explore deep underground caverns.
3. White-water _____ must be made of tough material.
4. _____ sometimes choose to jump off high mountains.
5. Mountain _____ must be made strong for riding over rough roads.
6. _____ use special bindings to keep their feet from slipping off the board.
7. Dangerous _____ can cause serious injuries.
8. Well-trained _____ must work out constantly to keep in shape.