

Lesson
7

Subjects in Unusual Order

Teaching

In most **questions**, the subject comes after the verb or between parts of the verb phrase.

Are you healthy? (*you* is the subject; *are* is the verb)

Do you have agility? (*you* is the subject; *Do have* is the verb phrase)

The subject of a **command**, or imperative sentence, is usually *you*. Often, *you* doesn't appear in the sentence because it is implied, or understood.

Practice that maneuver.

VERB (The implied subject is *you*.)

In an inverted sentence, the subject comes after the verb.

Up the mountain climbed the brave hiker.

VERB SUBJECT

In some sentences beginning with the words *here* or *there*, the subject follows the verb. You find the subject by looking at the words that follow the verb.

Here is a steep cliff. There were many climbers on the mountain.

VERB SUBJECT VERB SUBJECT

Finding Subjects and Verbs in Unusual Positions

In the following sentences, underline the simple subject once and the verb or verb phrase twice. If the subject is understood, write **You** in parentheses on the line.

1. Do you know anything about mountain climbing? _____
2. There are people in love with the sport. _____
3. Are you one of them? _____
4. Has anyone tried that steep trail? _____
5. Here are some suggestions for safe climbing. _____
6. Hike with others, not alone. _____
7. Choose your path carefully. _____
8. There should be an emergency plan in case of danger. _____
9. Over the sharp rocks stumbled the weary climber. _____
10. Here comes a rockslide! _____
11. Around the mountain climbers howled the fierce snowstorm. _____
12. Are your hiking boots waterproof? _____

Subjects in Unusual Order

More Practice

A. Writing Sentences

In the following sentences, underline the simple subject once and the verb twice. Then rewrite each sentence so that the subject comes before the verb.

EXAMPLE To the peak struggled the victorious climber.

The victorious climber struggled to the peak.

1. There are mountains under water.

2. In the Black Hills are dome mountains.

3. Were some mountains volcanic?

4. Far above sea level rises the mighty Mt. Everest.

5. Did the Rockies form after the Appalachians?

B. Writing Sentences

Rewrite each sentence as an inverted or imperative sentence. You may choose to add *Here* or *There*. Then underline each subject once and each verb twice in your new sentence.

EXAMPLE The miners drilled into the mountain.

Into the mountain drilled the miners.

1. The silver mine is down this shaft.

2. Nuggets of gold sparkled there in the mountain stream.

3. Coal carts rumbled through the mine entrance.

4. You must wear a hard hat in the mine.

5. Precious minerals are deep within some mountains.

Complements: Subject Complements

Teaching

A complement is a word or group of words that completes the meaning of the verb.

A **subject complement** is a word or group of words that follows a linking verb and renames or describes the subject. Common **linking verbs** include forms of *be*, such as *am, is, are, was, were, being, and been*; and verbs such as *appear, feel, look, sound, smell, seem, and taste*.

Both nouns and adjectives can serve as subject complements.

A predicate noun follows a linking verb and defines or renames the subject.

The dessert is chocolate cake. (The predicate noun does not include modifiers.)

SUBJECT	LINKING	PREDICATE
VERB	NOUN	NOUN

A predicate adjective follows a linking verb and describes a quality of the subject.

The dessert tastes delicious after the meal. (The predicate adjective usually does not include prepositional phrases.)

SUBJECT	LINKING	PREDICATE
VERB	ADJECTIVE	ADJECTIVE

Identifying Linking Verbs and Subject Complements

In the following sentences, underline the linking verbs once and the subject complements twice. On the line, write **PA** for predicate adjective or **PN** for predicate noun.

1. Food is a basic need. _____
2. The variety of foods seems incredible! _____
3. Rice is a main dish in Asia. _____
4. Fish is the "meat" of the Pacific Islands. _____
5. In Argentina, beef is quite common. _____
6. Of all prepared foods, pancakes may be the oldest. _____
7. Tortillas are corn "pancakes." _____
8. Tortillas with meat, cheese, and hot salsa taste spicy. _____
9. The Italian word for pie is *pizza*. _____
10. Pizza remains popular throughout the world. _____
11. Many fruits are favorite snacks. _____
12. Fruits, such as peaches and apples, taste sweet. _____
13. Dairy products are important in many cultures. _____
14. Milk is a source of calcium. _____
15. A good diet is important. _____

Lesson 8

Complements: Subject Complements

More Practice

CHAPTER 1

A. Identifying Types of Subject Complements

In each of the following sentences, underline the linking verb once and the subject complement twice. Then, in the blank, write **PN** if the subject complement is a predicate noun or **PA** if it is a predicate adjective.

EXAMPLE The dessert is delicious. *PA*

- 1. My grandfather is a great baker. _____
- 2. His chocolate chip cookies are a real treat. _____
- 3. His brownies are famous in her neighborhood. _____
- 4. His specialty is homemade raisin bread. _____
- 5. That bread is incredibly tasty. _____
- 6. His blueberry muffins always look scrumptious! _____
- 7. His apple pies are masterpieces. _____
- 8. My grandfather's devil's food cake tastes heavenly! _____
- 9. His biscuits are amazingly light. _____
- 10. Unfortunately, many of his recipes remain secret. _____

B. Using Subject Complements

Complete each sentence below. First complete it with a predicate noun. Then complete it with a predicate adjective.

EXAMPLE The meal was pepperoni pizza.
The meal was extremely spicy.

- 1. The cook is _____
The cook is _____.
- 2. The main course was _____.
The main course was _____.
- 3. The table was _____.
The table was _____.
- 4. The guests were _____.
The guests were _____.