Subjects and Verbs A

A **subject** tells whom or what the sentence is about.

EXAMPLES Did everyone in your class enjoy the field trip? Ross and Roger will report on it tomorrow.

The simple predicate, or verb, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

EXAMPLES Did everyone in your class **enjoy** the field trip? Ross and Roger will report on it tomorrow.

EXERCISE A For the following sentences, underline the subjects and circle the verbs.

Example 1. Katya and her younger sister play basketball for our school.

- **1.** Rogelio and Martin are brothers and best friends.
- **2.** Every morning before school, the two brothers practice tennis.
- **3.** Rogelio and his coach will play tennis this afternoon.
- **4.** After lunch, Martin will go to his science class in the portable building outside.
- **5.** The teacher and some visitors were talking in the loud, busy hallway.
- **6.** At seven this evening, Katya and her best friend will study geometry together.
- **7.** Algebra and geometry can be fun.
- **8.** A scientist should know math and enjoy methodical research.
- **9.** Next year, Rogelio will study trigonometry.
- 10. Ever since the sixth grade, Katya has dreamed of a career as a marine biologist.

EXERCISE B For the following sentences, underline the subjects and circle the verbs.

Example 1. Engineers must know math and understand science.

- **11.** Engineering is a specialized field and requires a lot of study.
- **12.** A civil engineer might plan roadways or design bridges.
- **13.** Most engineers study their fields carefully and develop new ideas.
- **14.** The field of engineering requires creativity and demands attention to detail.
- **15.** Engineers often specialize in one area and focus their attention on that subject.

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Subjects and Verbs B

A **subject** tells whom or what the sentence is about.

Did **Harry** and **Sally** leave or just go outside? In the morning, we will go.

The **simple predicate,** or **verb,** is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

EXAMPLES Did Harry and Sally **leave** or just **go** outside? In the morning, we will go.

EXERCISE For the following sentences, underline the subjects and circle the verbs.

Example 1. Rosa and Marta are on the volleyball team.

- 1. Venus and Mars are Earth's nearest planetary neighbors.
- **2.** Gilbert will create a short film or write a one-act play.
- **3.** Her three-year-old brother does a silly dance and gives us all a good laugh.
- 4. Working together, Jamal and Tina carried the boxes of books up three flights of stairs.
- The best movie of the summer created suspense and frightened the audience.
- **6.** Especially during this close game, the team members and the coach must work together.
- 7. Last weekend, Aunt Sally went to the neighborhood pool and read for hours.
- **8.** When will we see our relatives and exchange the gifts?
- **9.** Both Hannah and Chuck worked hard on the science project.
- **10.** In her spare time, Elena studies art books, finds interesting ideas, and creates new projects.
- **11.** Push-ups and chin-ups require strength in the arms and shoulders.
- **12.** Every evening before dark, the athlete and her coach jog three miles together.
- **13.** Among those with perfect attendance for the year were Joey, Dannika, and Steig.
- **14.** On the hike up the mountain, I stumbled over a log and bruised my knee.
- **15.** Either the baseball team or the softball team should win the state championship this year.
- To our surprise, neither Mom nor Grandpa particularly liked the salsa.
- 17. The amateur photographer takes pictures regularly but never develops her own photographs.
- **18.** My neighbor writes short films but usually doesn't produce them.
- **19.** Will lettuce and tomatoes be crops in our backyard garden this year?
- **20.** During a funny scene, that actor skipped a line and confused the star of the show.