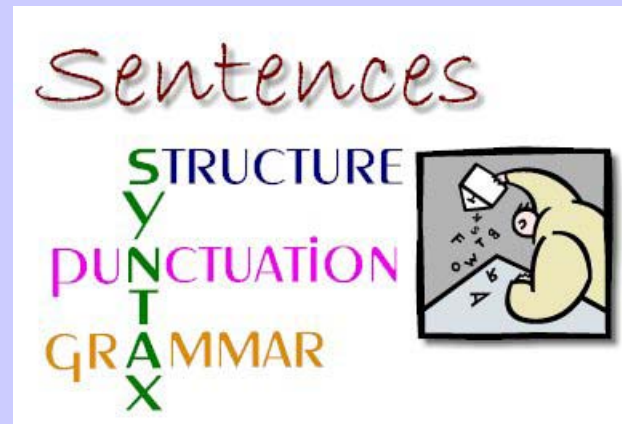


All About Sentences



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How the Presentation Works

- Guides the user through a review of basic sentence structure
- Introduces new sentence patterns and offers practice opportunities
- Allows students to proceed at their own pace

Sentence Basics: Subjects and Predicates

- Simple subject and predicate
- Complete subject and predicate
- Compound subject and predicate

Simple Subject and Predicate

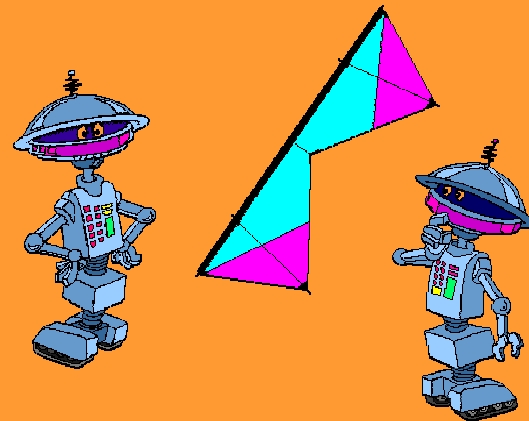
A sentence consists of two parts: the subject and the predicate. The subject is the part that is doing something or about which something is being said. The predicate is the part that says something about the subject. In a sentence the subject and predicate fit together to form a complete thought.

Examples

- Simple Subject: Marjorie owns a robot that carries her books for her.
- Understood Subject: Think about what a robot could do in your home. (understood subject: You)
- Simple Predicate: Felicia's robot will obey all her commands.

Practice 1

- ✓ Complete worksheet titled: “Subjects and Predicates 1.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions” and “Next Step.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct.



Complete Subjects and Predicates

- There are simple subjects and simple predicates. But what about all those other words in the sentence?
- The words that describe the subject and predicate are called *modifiers*. Modifiers change or add to the meaning of the subject and predicate.
- Together, the simple subject plus its modifiers make the *complete subject*, and the simple predicate and its modifiers make the *complete predicate*.

Examples

Complete Subject:

The large, umbrella-shaped parachute saved the life of the inexperienced pilot.

Complete Predicate:

The large, umbrella-shaped parachute (saved the life of the inexperienced pilot.)

Practice 2

- ✓ Complete the worksheet titled “Subjects and Predicates 2.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions” and “Next Step.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct.



Compound Subjects and Predicates

Combining short, related sentences into longer sentences is valuable practice for improving your writing style. Writers can combine short sentences using coordinating conjunctions. (and, or, but, etc.) This can result in a sentence with either a **compound subject** (two or more simple subjects) or a **compound predicate** (two or more simple predicates) or both.

Examples

- *Compound Subject:* Earl and Kutida Woods are the proud parents of golf champion Tiger Woods.
- *Compound Predicate:* Tiger Woods (putted) against Bob Hope at age two and (was featured) in *Golf Digest* at age five.
- *Compound Subject and Compound Predicate:* Tiger and his father (play) golf and (support) charities.

Practice 3

- ✓ Complete worksheet titled: “Compound Subjects and Predicates.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions” and “Next Step.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct..



More Sentence Basics

- Phrases
- Clauses
- Misplaced Modifiers

Examples

Our trip to North Dakota was great. (preposition: *to*; object: *North Dakota*)

We stopped at many drive-in restaurants. (preposition; *at*; object: *restaurants*)

Practice 4

- ✓ Complete worksheet titled: “Phrases.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct.



Clauses

Clauses, like phrases, are word groups that add information to a sentence. Unlike phrases, clauses always have a subject and a predicate. Clauses that form a complete thought are called **independent clauses**, and clauses that do not form a complete thought are called **dependent** or **subordinate clauses**.

Examples

*Dependent Clause: **Even though she (was) at the peak of her career,** Florence Griffith-Joyner retired from running in 1989.*

*Independent Clause: **Florence Griffith-Joyner (retired) from running in 1989** even though she was at the peak of her career.*

***Florence Griffith-Joyner (was) a fantastic runner,** and **she (won) many Olympic medals.** (Two independent clauses are separated by a comma and a coordinating conjunction or by a semicolon.)*

Practice 5

- ✓ Complete worksheet titled: “Clauses.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions” and “Next Step.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct.



Misplaced Modifiers

Modifiers are words, phrases, and clauses that describe the simple subject or simple predicate of the sentence. The key to using modifiers effectively is to make sure that you place them as close as possible to the words they modify. Misplacing the modifier makes the sentence confusing and sometimes silly.

Examples

Confusing sentence: **John Glenn returned to space shortly after turning 77 on October 29, 1998.** (It sounds as if John Glenn turned 77 on October 29, 1998.)

Clear sentence: **Shortly after turning 77, John Glenn returned to space on October 29, 1998.**

Practice 6

- ✓ Complete the worksheet titled: “Misplaced Modifiers.”
- ✓ Follow “Directions” and “Next Step.”
- ✓ Peer edit or see teacher to correct.



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