

Unit 1 Language Notes

Subject and Verb identification

A Refresher: Know Your Parts of Speech

- Noun: A person, place, thing, or idea
- Verb: An action or state of being
- Adjective: A word that describes a noun
- Adverb: A word that describes an adjective or adverb or tells how a verb was done
- Pronoun: A word that replaces a noun
- Preposition: A word that provides location or direction
- Conjunction: A word that connects phrases, clauses, and sentences
- Interjection: A word that shows emotion or feeling

Every sentence is made up of the parts of speech:

• **Interjection** **Pronoun** **Adverb** **Verb** **Prep** **Adverb** **Adjective**
Yikes! I almost stepped on a very little
Noun **Conjunction** **Adverb** **Pronoun** **Verb** **Prep** **Pronoun**
turtle but luckily I walked around it.

Identifying subjects:

Subjects are always **nouns** or **pronouns** and the words that go with them.

Yikes! **I** almost stepped on a very little turtle but luckily **I** walked around it.

This sentence has two subjects, even though they are the same person (I).

Identifying verbs:

The verb is the action of the sentence. It is also called the predicate.

Yikes! I almost stepped on a very little turtle but luckily I walked around it.

This sentence has two verbs – stepped and walked.

An important reminder: The subject or verb are NEVER part of a prepositional phrase!

- By itself, a prepositional phrase is a fragment:
 - After the movie
 - In his bedroom
 - Under the deck
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- After the movie, the sweethearts strolled down the block.
 - Jeffrey hid his bad report card in his bedroom.
 - My dogs, who crawled under the deck, found and were sprayed by a skunk.

Let's Practice!

- Jennie and Julie performed at the Talent show.
- The old man sat on the bench and waited for the bus.
- Batman and Robin are my favorite super heroes.
- Honesty is the best policy.
- The twins, Jeff and Justin, fight constantly but are also best friends.
- The animal shelter will hold an open house this weekend.
- Many dogs and cats will hopefully be adopted.

Simple Subject vs. Complete Subject

Simple subject = Noun or Pronoun by itself

- The old **man** sat on the bench and waited for the bus.
- The **twins**, Jeff and Justin, fight constantly but are also best friends.

Complete subject = all the words that go along with the subject

- **The old man** sat on the bench and waited for the bus.
- **The twins, Jeff and Justin,** fight constantly but are also best friends.

Simple Predicate vs. Complete Predicate

Simple Predicate = Verb by itself

- The old man **sat** on the bench.
- The twins, Jeff and Justin, **fight** constantly.

Complete Predicate = all the words that go along with the verb

- The old man **sat on the bench.**
- The twins, Jeff and Justin, **fight constantly.**

Separate the **complete subject** from the **complete predicate**:

- Ex: **While waiting for the doctor, my grandma** | **fell asleep.**
- Ex: **The little green bug** | **stretched its antennae and flew away.**
- Jack and Harry, who are great dancers, are auditioning for a dance troupe.
- The teacher, along with her students, is looking forward to the new school year.
- Neither the freshman or the transfer student could find the library.