

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a subject and a predicate. The words that tell whom or what the sentence is about are the **complete subject**. The most important word in the complete subject is the **simple subject**. It is usually a noun or a pronoun. Some simple subjects have more than one word, such as *Kansas City*.

Many families moved west in the 1840s.      The simple subject is *families*.

The words that tell what the subject is or does are the **complete predicate**. The most important word in the complete predicate is the **simple predicate**, or the verb. Some simple predicates have more than one word, such as *is walking*.

The trip could take up to six months.      The simple predicate is *could take*.

A **fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject or a predicate.

Had to carry everything with them.      This fragment lacks a subject.

A **run-on** is two or more complete sentences run together.

The settlers needed food they needed tools.

**Directions** Underline each simple subject once. Underline each simple predicate twice.

1. A tornado's shape is like a funnel.
2. The deadly funnel measures up to a mile wide.
3. They are unpredictable in their movements.
4. Settlers feared the awful twister.

**Directions** Write *F* after a fragment. Write *R* after a run-on. Then correct the sentence errors. Write a complete sentence or two complete sentences on the lines.

5. The wind inside a tornado \_\_\_\_\_

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6. A tornado can be called a twister it is also sometimes called a cyclone. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Home Activity** Your child learned about subjects and predicates. Talk about a storm you and your child have experienced. Have your child write several sentences about the storm and identify the complete and simple subjects and predicates in each sentence.

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## Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

**Directions** Use each noun and verb pair as the simple subject and simple predicate. Add words to make a complete sentence. Underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

1. tall tales      include

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2. hero      is

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3. stories      make

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4. Pecos Bill      lassoed

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5. Paul Bunyan      rode

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**Directions** This paragraph contains fragments and a run-on. Rewrite the paragraph. Add words and punctuation to make sure every sentence has a subject and a predicate.

Davy Crockett was a real person he was also the hero of many tall tales. A good frontiersman and hunter. Killed a bear when he was only three. This “king of the wild frontier.”

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**Home Activity** Your child learned how to write sentences that have subjects and predicates. Name a familiar person. Have your child write three sentences about the person and underline the subject and circle the predicate in each sentence.

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## Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

**Directions** Mark the letter of the sentence in which the simple subject and simple predicate are correctly underlined.

- A Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.  
 B Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.  
 C Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.  
 D Cowboys of Texas herded cattle to Kansas on the Abilene Trail.
- A The great herds moved along slowly.  
 B The great herds moved along slowly.  
 C The great herds moved along slowly.  
 D The great herds moved along slowly.
- A These large animals must graze for hours each day.  
 B These large animals must graze for hours each day.  
 C These large animals must graze for hours each day.  
 D These large animals must graze for hours each day.
- A They needed a vast supply of water.  
 B They needed a vast supply of water.  
 C They needed a vast supply of water.  
 D They needed a vast supply of water.
- A Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.  
 B Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.  
 C Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.  
 D Lean, tanned cowboys urged the cattle forward.

**Directions** Mark the letter of the group of words that has a subject and a predicate.

- A Crossed dangerously swift rivers.  
 B In the dark of night under the light of the moon.  
 C The cowboys also protected the cattle from predators.  
 D Sleeping in shifts on the hard ground.
- A A cowboy's horse.  
 B For miles in the hot, dusty country.  
 C They shared water and companionship.  
 D Became a best friend and a well-loved co-worker.
- A A well-made hat was a prized possession.  
 B Also a sturdy saddle and bridle.  
 C Tough leather chaps for the legs.  
 D Protected the cowboy's face from heat and dust.



**Home Activity** Your child prepared for taking tests on subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Circle a paragraph in the newspaper. Have your child identify the subject and predicate of each sentence in the paragraph.

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## Simple and Complete Subjects and Predicates

**Directions** Draw a line between the complete subject and the complete predicate in each sentence. Circle the simple subject and the simple predicate.

1. A blacksmith was important to the pioneer community.
2. People called this metal worker a smithy.
3. He could mend a plow or tools.
4. The powerful man pounded steel on his anvil.
5. Fascinated children watched the smithy at work.

**Directions** Identify the part of the sentence that is underlined. Write *complete subject*, *simple subject*, *complete predicate*, or *simple predicate*.

6. Patient oxen were once beasts of burden. \_\_\_\_\_
7. A pair of oxen might pull a wagon. \_\_\_\_\_
8. These big animals could plow all day. \_\_\_\_\_
9. The farmer walked along behind. \_\_\_\_\_

**Directions:** Write *F* if a group of words is a fragment. Write *R* if it is a run-on sentence. Rewrite each one to make a complete sentence or a compound sentence.

10. Barbed wire was invented in Illinois it quickly became popular all over the United States. \_\_\_\_\_

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11. Fenced in their cattle. \_\_\_\_\_

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12. These fences kept cattle in and rustlers out cattle injured themselves on the fences at first. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Home Activity** Your child reviewed subjects, predicates, fragments, and run-ons. Ask your child to make a note card for each term with the definition on one side and an example on the other.