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Two Parts of a Sentence

Look at the two sentences.



1. Sita sings.



2. Stars shine.

Divide each sentence into two parts:

1. Sita // sings.
2. Stars // shine.

The first part of the sentence says about 'what' or about 'whom' the sentence is. This first part is called the **subject** of a sentence. It names a person or a thing.

In the above sentences, **Sita** and **stars** are the subjects.

The second part of each sentence says something about the subject. In sentence 1, it says something about **Sita**. What does it say? It says that Sita sings.

In sentence 2, it says something about **stars**. What does it say? It says that the stars **shine**. 'Sings' and 'shine' are **predicates**.

1. The person or thing spoken about is called the **subject** of a sentence.
2. The part which talks about the subject is called the **predicate** of a sentence.

A subject can be a word (as in the above example) or a group of words. Similarly, a predicate can be a word (as in the above example) or a group of words.

The following sentences have been divided into two parts: subject and predicate.

Subject	Predicate
1. Ravi and Karim	go for a walk each morning.
2. This hungry child	is weeping bitterly.
3. The little lamb	followed her everywhere.
4. An old beggar	will be walking along a narrow lane.

The verbs have been given in red in each of the predicates. The verb can be one word or two or more words (go, is weeping, will be walking).

In the sentences that express command, order or request, the subject **you** is mostly not mentioned but understood, as in the following:

1. Come here.
2. Please, give me your book.

They mean:

1. (You) come here.
2. (You) please give me your book.

EXERCISES

★ Underline the subjects in red and predicates in blue.

1. They run fast.
2. Cats mew.
3. You cannot run fast.
4. Work hard.
5. Sing a song.
6. Mangoes taste sweet.
7. We are happy.
8. Mary had a little lamb.
9. Time runs fast.
10. Hens lay eggs.





Add subjects to the following predicates:

1. *Fish* swim.
2. *Teachers* teach.
3. *Wind* blow.
4. *Rivers* flow.
5. *Students* learn.
6. *Babies* weep.
7. *Cows* eat grass.
8. *Birds* build nests.



Add predicates to the following subjects:

1. Flowers ... *bloom*
2. Bees ... *collect nectar*
3. Horses ... *neigh*
4. Lions ... *roar*
5. Clocks ... *tell time*
6. Soldiers ... *protect*
7. Stars ... *shine*
8. Parrots ... *eat chilies*



Find the correct predicates from Column 2 to match the subjects given in Column 1. One is done for you.

Subjects	Predicates
1. <i>Bullocks</i>	<i>draw carts.</i>
2. Bees	are moving slowly. (10)
3. Farmers	have thick trunks. (8)
4. Grapes	gather honey. (2)
5. Nurses	teaches well. (7)
6. Children	grow in bunches. (4)
7. The teacher	are interesting. (9)
8. Trees	look after patients. (5)
9. Books	are playing. (6)
10. Cars	plough in fields. (3)