

Unit 1: Subjects, Predicates, and Sentences

Lesson 1

Kinds of Sentences: Declarative and Interrogative

A group of words that expresses a complete thought is a **sentence**. All sentences begin with a capital letter. A **declarative sentence** makes a statement. It ends with a period. An **interrogative sentence** asks a question. It ends with a question mark.

Florida summers are very hot. (declarative)

Are summers in Florida very hot? (interrogative)

► **Exercise 1** Write in the blank *dec.* (declarative) if the sentence makes a statement or *int.* (interrogative) if the sentence asks a question.

- int. Can you help me with my algebra?
- _____ 1. I'm going swimming today.
- _____ 2. Is the president addressing the nation on television tonight?
- _____ 3. My grandfather was an army sergeant.
- _____ 4. Mitchell plans to audition for the choir.
- _____ 5. Margaret bought this dress in Mexico.
- _____ 6. Claire, will you help me practice my lines?
- _____ 7. Are you going to camp this summer?
- _____ 8. You are good at solving puzzles.
- _____ 9. How long did it take you to read *The Red Badge of Courage*?
- _____ 10. Our soccer team won the league championship.
- _____ 11. The butterfly slowly unfolded its wings.
- _____ 12. The wind knocked down a large tree.
- _____ 13. Have you met the new teacher yet?
- _____ 14. Which wrestlers won their matches?
- _____ 15. The title of the mystery novel was misleading.

- _____ 16. Kyle pulled the burrs out of Queenie's matted hair.
- _____ 17. What is the weather forecast for tomorrow?
- _____ 18. Has anyone seen my blue folder?
- _____ 19. Are snowflakes all the same shape?
- _____ 20. Do you and your friends appreciate the same kinds of music?

► **Exercise 2** Punctuate each of the following sentences with a period or question mark.

The new car is midnight blue.

1. Have you met Danielle yet
2. Who is hungry
3. This computer doesn't work
4. The fire engines roared past us
5. Suzanne wandered home from school
6. Did Clyde get the part he wanted in the musical comedy
7. The desk was cluttered with all kinds of papers
8. Janice and Shawna went to the movies last night
9. Will you put up a new bulletin board
10. Will Pablo know what to do
11. Paula opened the door carefully
12. Can you hear the music from the auditorium
13. Does anyone here know Italian
14. Akira does not like to read mysteries
15. Did you read the entire book last night
16. Could everyone stay seated until we're finished
17. How much would this famous painting be worth
18. The clouds gave way to sunshine
19. What made the dog bark
20. The window blinds are closed

Lesson 2**Kinds of Sentences: Exclamatory and Imperative**

A sentence may do more than express a statement or ask a question. An **exclamatory sentence** expresses a strong emotion. It ends with an exclamation point. An **imperative sentence** gives a command or makes a request. It ends with a period.

Look out! (strong emotion)

Don't forget the party Saturday. (command)

Please mail these letters on your way to Janet's house. (request)

► **Exercise 1** Write in the blank *exc.* (exclamatory) if the sentence expresses a strong feeling. Write *imp.* (imperative) if the sentence gives a command or makes a request. Add a period or an exclamation point as needed.

_____ **imp.** Remember to keep your eyes on the ball at all times.

- _____ 1. Don't stay up too late
- _____ 2. What a terrific day we had at the zoo
- _____ 3. Watch out for that low branch
- _____ 4. Tell me more about your fishing trip
- _____ 5. Don't run in the halls
- _____ 6. Buy more glue when you go to the store
- _____ 7. Clean up your desk, please
- _____ 8. Let's go watch the parade
- _____ 9. That muddy dog just stole my hamburger
- _____ 10. Try to solve the puzzle before the contestant does
- _____ 11. Let the baby sleep
- _____ 12. Oh, you just sat in some wet paint
- _____ 13. Feed the dog at the same time every day
- _____ 14. Turn in your book report next week
- _____ 15. I can't wait until Grandma gets here

- _____ 16. Go to sleep
- _____ 17. Walk through the flower bed carefully
- _____ 18. Speak louder
- _____ 19. I have never felt so frightened
- _____ 20. Play that song again
- _____ 21. Be home by ten o'clock
- _____ 22. Wait for me at the corner
- _____ 23. Put more paint on the other side
- _____ 24. Don't cross the street against the light
- _____ 25. Wait for an hour before you go swimming
- _____ 26. That's my favorite song
- _____ 27. Put on some mosquito repellent
- _____ 28. Walk quickly to the nearest exit
- _____ 29. This movie is funny
- _____ 30. I never even saw the ball
- _____ 31. Answer the phone politely
- _____ 32. I aced the test
- _____ 33. Please come to our party
- _____ 34. You did a great job
- _____ 35. I lost my keys
- _____ 36. Be sure to remember your umbrella
- _____ 37. Be careful going down the stairs
- _____ 38. Bring a Number 2 pencil to class
- _____ 39. Watch how I do this
- _____ 40. This food is delicious

Lesson 3**Sentence Fragments**

Every sentence must have a subject and a predicate to express a complete thought. The **subject** part of a sentence names who or what the sentence is about. The **predicate** part tells what the subject does or has. It can also describe what the subject is or is like.

SUBJECT **PREDICATE**
My friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament.

A **sentence fragment** is a group of words that lacks a subject, a predicate, or both. A fragment does not express a complete thought.

Will play in the volleyball tournament. (lacks a subject)

My friend Joel. (lacks a predicate)

Without a doubt. (lacks both a subject and a predicate)

Without a doubt, my friend Joel will play in the volleyball tournament.
(expresses a complete thought)

► **Exercise 1** Write *sentence* in the blank before each word group that expresses a complete thought. Write *fragment* next to each word group that does not express a complete thought.

- fragment Wore her warmest sweater.
- _____ 1. The survivors of the earthquake showed great courage.
- _____ 2. Caused problems everywhere.
- _____ 3. Every Sunday their family went hiking.
- _____ 4. Even the rain couldn't dampen their spirits.
- _____ 5. Rode calmly and quietly in the backseat.
- _____ 6. Rose in the air like a bird.
- _____ 7. Of his meal untouched.
- _____ 8. Hundreds of firefighters fought the forest fires last summer.
- _____ 9. The thought escaped him.
- _____ 10. As fragile as glass.
- _____ 11. In the park for our picnic.

- _____ 12. Our newspaper arrived late on Tuesday.
- _____ 13. Janette, who's coming at four.
- _____ 14. Simply everywhere.
- _____ 15. Postponed for the second time.
- _____ 16. Ted climbed to the top of the stadium.
- _____ 17. They played their very best.
- _____ 18. In every nook and cranny.
- _____ 19. Available at five o'clock.
- _____ 20. She was preparing her résumé.

► **Exercise 2** Write a complete sentence by adding a subject, a predicate, or both to each sentence fragment. Punctuate your sentences correctly.

Grinned and cackled. The ugly troll grinned and cackled.

- 1. Marla and Kimberly. _____
- 2. On the shelves. _____
- 3. Dusted the books. _____
- 4. Maple and elm trees. _____
- 5. Greeted Eloisa. _____
- 6. At the library. _____
- 7. John Kimura the dentist. _____
- 8. Looked at Isabel. _____
- 9. Flat, sandy fields. _____
- 10. The mystery of space. _____
- 11. In the closet. _____
- 12. Busy traffic. _____
- 13. Carmen and her sister. _____
- 14. Followed the directions. _____
- 15. Saw the falling star. _____
- 16. Around the bend. _____

Lesson 4**Subjects and Predicates: Simple and Complete**

Both a subject and a predicate may consist of more than one word. The **complete subject** includes all of the words in the subject part of a sentence. The **complete predicate** includes all of the words in the predicate part of a sentence.

COMPLETE SUBJECT COMPLETE PREDICATE

My younger brother likes alphabet soup for lunch.

The **simple subject** is the main word or group of words in the complete subject. The **simple predicate** is the main word or group of words in the complete predicate. The simple predicate is always a **verb**, a word or words that express an action or a state of being.

SIMPLE SUBJECT SIMPLE PREDICATE

My younger **brother** **likes** alphabet soup for lunch.

► **Exercise 1** Draw a vertical line between the complete subject and the complete predicate.

People|call Australia the continent “down under.”

1. Australia is one of the most spectacular countries in the world.
2. The country is both the smallest continent and the largest island.
3. This small continent lies in the Southern Hemisphere.
4. The coastline of Australia is irregular.
5. It measures 12,210 miles.
6. The island state of Tasmania once formed the southeastern corner of the mainland.
7. The Great Barrier Reef continues along the eastern coast for 1,250 miles.
8. Four species of coral reef compose the chain of reefs and islands.
9. Australia’s western regions form a great plateau.
10. The climate ranges from temperate to tropical.
11. Forty percent of Australia has only two seasons: hot and wet or warm and dry.
12. The average rainfall ranges from five to fifteen inches.
13. Australia’s natural lakes fill with water only after heavy rains.

14. The country's major lakes are salt water.
15. Most of the land is desert.
16. Australia's four deserts include the Simpson, the Gibson, the Great Sandy, and the Great Victoria.
17. Few rivers exist in the western part of this country.
18. Aqueducts and tunnels channel water from the Snowy Mountains for irrigation and hydroelectric power in the southeast.
19. The Australian Alps rise to 7,310 feet in the Eastern Highlands.
20. Ayers Rock in central Australia is a tourist attraction.

► **Exercise 2** Draw one line under the simple subject and two lines under the simple predicate.

Australia has many unique plants and animals.

1. Forests cover the east coast of Tasmania.
2. The forests consist mainly of pine trees.
3. The dingo is a doglike animal.
4. It hunts sheep.
5. Dingoes prey on kangaroos as well.
6. Many people find wallabies interesting.
7. They are small members of the kangaroo family.
8. Wallabies belong to the marsupial order.
9. Female wallabies carry their young in a pouch.
10. Two species of crocodiles dwell in Australia.
11. The Queensland lungfish has no gills.
12. A lungfish breathes with a single lung.
13. Six hundred fifty species of birds live in Australia.
14. One hundred species of venomous snakes lurk on the ground.
15. The ocean offers seventy species of sharks.
16. Sharks pose no threat to people in most cases.