

# Simple Subjects and Predicates

*Reteaching*

Every sentence needs both a subject and a predicate. The **subject** tells whom or what the sentence is about. The **predicate** tells what the subject is or does or what happens to the subject. The **simple subject** is the key word or words in the complete subject. The **simple predicate** is the verb or verb phrase that tells something about the subject.

Daily life in the American colonies comes alive in restored Williamsburg.

SIMPLE SUBJECT

SIMPLE PREDICATE

Vacationers should consider a visit to this fascinating site.

SIMPLE SUBJECT SIMPLE PREDICATE

## Identifying Simple Subjects and Simple Predicates

Underline the simple subject once and the simple predicate twice.

**EXAMPLE** The historic city of Williamsburg attracts thousands of tourists.

1. Williamsburg is a restored colonial town in Virginia.
2. At this tourist attraction, costumed guides show visitors around their town.
3. In the springtime, gardens are filled with daffodils and tulips.
4. Hungry tourists enjoy dinners in candle-lit taverns and restaurants.
5. Uniformed soldiers perform maneuvers on the commons to the delight of both children and adults.
6. At some sites, skilled craftspersons practice long-forgotten arts such as blacksmithing and candlemaking.
7. Williamsburg served as the capital of the Virginia Colony from 1699 to 1779.
8. In 1765, Patrick Henry delivered his famous speech in the Williamsburg Capitol.
9. English colonists chose the site for its good soil drainage and pleasant climate.
10. At first, residents called the colony Middle Plantation.
11. Later, colonists renamed the town Williamsburg in honor of King William III.
12. During *publick times*, fancy balls were held in the bustling town.
13. Williamsburg was the site of the first newspaper in Virginia, *The Virginia Gazette*.
14. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., supported the town's restoration during the 1920s.
15. A historic plantation is located just outside Williamsburg.
16. Inside the homes of Williamsburg, rooms are decorated in the colonial style.
17. Even the streets are brick and cobblestone instead of modern asphalt.
18. In April, flowering trees fill the air with a sweet smell.
19. Pink and white blossoms make the little town colorful and inviting.
20. A Williamsburg visit will be an enjoyable step back into time.

# Simple Subjects and Predicates

*More Practice*

## A. Identifying Simple Subjects and Simple Predicates

Underline the simple subject once and the simple predicate twice in each of the following sentences.

**EXAMPLE** The city of Boston hosts an exciting sports event every spring.

1. The Boston Marathon is an annual 26-mile race.
2. Many runners come from all over the world for this event.
3. The race begins in a suburb of Boston.
4. The course takes runners around the Massachusetts countryside.
5. The night before the race, many runners eat pasta dinners.
6. These carbohydrates give the runners energy and stamina.
7. During the race, many runners hit "the wall" after 20 miles.
8. Some racers are stopped by this phenomenon.
9. Approximately 6,000 people enter the competition each year.
10. Despite the tension and exhaustion, many contestants return again and again.

## B. Identifying Complete Sentences

Some of the following items are complete sentences and some are fragments. If the item is a complete sentence, write **CS** on the line. If the item is a fragment, write either **SS** or **SP** to identify whether the sentence is missing a simple subject or a simple predicate.

1. Our capital city, Washington, D.C., is a sightseer's paradise. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The imposing figure of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Memorial. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Tourists the city at cherry blossom time each spring. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The White House stands on lush grounds in the downtown area. \_\_\_\_\_
5. May view world-famous works of art at the National Gallery of Art. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Travelers the efficient underground train system every day. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Conduct tours of the Capitol Building throughout the year. \_\_\_\_\_
8. The Washington Monument is the tallest structure in the city. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Is located between the White House and the Capitol. \_\_\_\_\_
10. The Smithsonian Institution several separate and fascinating museums. \_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Subjects and Predicates***Application***A. Writing Subjects and Predicates**

Write sentences on the lines below by adding both a subject and a predicate to each fragment. Do not use the fragment as the subject of the sentence.

1. deep under the waters of the Atlantic \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. in the window seat on the plane \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. because of her allergies \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. after spring training \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. out of the alien ship \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. beside a mountain stream \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**B. Revising**

Read this paragraph carefully. It contains several sentence fragments. When you find a sentence fragment, use this proofreading symbol  $\wedge$  to add a subject or a predicate.

**EXAMPLE** San Francisco<sup>*is built*</sup> $\wedge$  on more than 40 hills.

One of the most popular tourist attractions on the West Coast San Francisco, California. Is known for its breathtaking views of the San Francisco Bay and the Pacific Ocean. The Golden Gate Bridge this lovely city with suburbs to the north. Residents good at driving on steep inclines. In fact, some of the steepest and most winding streets in the country in San Francisco. No should leave without a look at the famous cable cars. The clang of their bells in the streets of the city. Every tourist should also Fisherman's Wharf for a taste of good, fresh seafood.