

## Complete and Simple Subjects and Predicates B

**10c.** The *simple subject* is the main word or word group that tells *whom* or *what* the sentence is about.

The simple subject is part of the *complete subject*, which consists of all the words that tell *whom* or *what* the sentence is about.

**10e.** The *simple predicate*, or *verb*, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

The simple predicate is part of the *complete predicate*, which consists of a verb and all the words that describe the verb and complete its meaning.

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, underline the complete subject and circle the simple subject.

**Example 1.** More and more people are learning to use the Internet.

1. Use of the Internet is becoming increasingly common.
2. The World Wide Web is an excellent research tool.
3. Different search engines are available to users.
4. The purpose of a search engine is to help users find information.
5. The person looking for information types key words into a search engine.
6. The search engine looks for Web sites containing the key words.
7. The results of the search then appear in a list.
8. The user clicks on any Web site.
9. Very specific key words are sometimes necessary.
10. A search engine can be easy to use and fast.

**EXERCISE B** In each of the following sentences, underline the complete predicate and circle the simple predicate.

**Example 1.** Finding information on the Internet may seem difficult at first.

11. A wealth of information is available on the Internet.
12. People can find ZIP Codes on the Internet.
13. Telephone directories are available on the Internet.
14. Students can find tutorials on the World Wide Web.
15. Can drivers find maps to their destinations?

## Subjects and Predicates

**10b.** A **subject** tells *whom* or *what* the sentence is about.

To find the subject, ask *who* or *what* is doing something or *about whom* or *what* something is being said.

**10d.** The **predicate** of a sentence tells something about the subject.

In the following examples, the subjects are underlined once and the predicates are underlined twice.

**EXAMPLES** The construction of the White House began in 1792.

Not until 1800 did the presidential residence have its first occupants.

**EXERCISE A** Identify the underlined part or parts of each of the following sentences as the subject or the predicate. On the line provided, write *S* for *subject* or *P* for *predicate*.

**Example**     P     1. Has the White House been the home of every United States president  
except George Washington?

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The White House was originally called the President's House.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Later, it was called the Executive Mansion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The building's design was chosen after a contest in 1791.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. The Irish American architect James Hoban won five hundred dollars for his design.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. The original structure was built of white-gray sandstone.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. British forces attacked the capital in 1814 and burned the President's House.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. After the fire, painters whitewashed the new mansion.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Covering smoke stains were several coats of white paint.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. People commonly called the building the White House.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. During his presidency, Theodore Roosevelt authorized the popular name.

**EXERCISE B** Identify the underlined part or parts of each of the following sentences as the subject or the predicate. On the line provided, write *S* for *subject* or *P* for *predicate*.

**Example**     P     1. One symbol of United States independence is the Liberty Bell.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. A picture of the Liberty Bell appears in our social studies textbook.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Does the Liberty Bell really weigh over two thousand pounds?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. The nation's flag also symbolizes independence.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The flag's thirteen stripes stand for the nation's original thirteen colonies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Can any of you explain the symbolic meaning of the flag's fifty stars?