



## Simple and Complete Subjects

- 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.

**SENTENCE** The Kabuki dancers' costumes are beautiful.

**COMPLETE SUBJECT** The Kabuki dancers' costumes

**SIMPLE SUBJECT** costumes

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, the complete subject is underlined. Circle the word or word group that is the simple subject.

**Example 1.** The long journey would have been impossible without these boots.

- Traditional Inuit dress includes the parka and mukluks.
- People in snowy climates wear snowshoes for a variety of purposes.
- North American Indians developed moccasins centuries ago.
- The upper part of this comfortable footwear is often adorned with colorful beads.
- A simple piece of leather with rawhide lacings was the first kind of shoe.

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

**Example 1.** Traditional cowboys in the American West wore boots with spurs.

- Most of the ancient Egyptians went barefoot.
- Some kinds of sandals can be laced almost to the knee.
- Have you ever worn a plastic shoe?
- At one time, some shoes in Japan were attached to stilts as high as six inches.
- The Romans shaped shoes to fit the left foot and the right foot.
- In ancient Rome, shoe style depended on social class.
- During the 1300s in England, shoes with pointed toes eighteen inches long were popular.
- The people of some mountainous areas wear shoes with an upturned toe and a high heel.
- Decorations of gold, silver, and gems adorned some eighteenth-century shoes.
- The first shoe factory appeared in Massachusetts in 1760.