

Name: _____



Complete Sentences: Part 1



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Section 1

BEGINNING WITH SECTION 2, this exercise contains 50 questions. Each answer must be written correctly to include grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Every missed answer equals a minus 2 points.

Monday Night Comeback

"What a game! Two touchdowns in less than two minutes. A classic Cowboys comeback."

"Yeah, sure. Typical Cowboys' luck."

A Complete Sentence Has a Two-Part Pattern:

Name a Subject

Tell Something About It

Name a Subject

Tell Something About It

As a writer, you should write complete sentences. The problem comes in trying to decide when a sentence is "complete." Our ear, accustomed to the informality of conversation, wants to hear a complete thought in any group of words whose meaning we understand. If you are a writer who sometimes write in incomplete sentences, it may be that you have developed the habit of relying too much on your ear to tell you if a sentence is complete or not. Instead you should learn to look for sentence completeness. A complete sentence has a two-part pattern: a subject is named and then something is said about that subject.



Section 2



WYSIWYG
Lesson 1
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- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 1. My mother | likes rock music. |
| 2. The speeding car | disappeared into the night. |
| 3. Rachel | needs encouragement to stay in college. |
| 4. This song | makes me sad. |
| 5. The weather | is unreasonably hot. |

Practice: Complete these sentences by adding a predicate portion.
(Graders: this section has 5 answers.)

1. My mother _____

2. The speeding car _____

3. Rachel _____

4. This song _____

5. The weather _____



A Complete Sentence Has a Two-part Pattern:

It names a subject & says something about it.

Subject Portion

Predicate Portion

To test for this pattern, **first find the verb.** Then divide the word group.



Three Complete Sentences Divided into Their Subject and Predicate Parts:

1. Tim Knows how to make Becky laugh.

subject word → Tim / knows how to make Becky laugh.
 Subject Part Predicate Part

2. In time love makes fools of us all.

subject word → In time love / makes fools of us all.
 Subject Part Predicate Part

3. A small group of determined senators defeated the bill in Congress.

subject word → A small group of determined senators / defeated the bill in Congress.
 Subject Part Predicate Part

The word (or words) in the subject part of the sentence names something the sentence is about—a person, place, or thing. The sentence's predicate tells about the subject and contains the sentence's verb. When you look for these two parts of a complete sentence, find the verb first and mark off all the words in the predicate. Then mark off the subject part of the sentence. Locating the verb is the key to finding both parts of a sentence and is the basic skill for seeing sentence completeness.



Section 2 continues . . .



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Lesson 1

Part 1; Section 3

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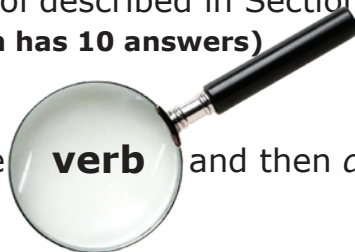
Section 3

Practice Exercises for Separating Sentences into Their Subject and Predicate Parts

Directions: Divide these 10 sentences into the SUBJECT and PREDICATE parts.
Use the grammar tool described in Section 2.

(Graders: this section has 10 answers)

First find the **verb** and then *divide* the word group.



1. He dreaded writing.

_____ / _____

2. Often he tried to bluff his way through English class.

_____ / _____

3. Each time the experience was the same.

_____ / _____

4. The pen remained frozen beside the empty pages.

_____ / _____

5. A blank sheet of paper reminded him of deadlines.

_____ / _____

6. He recalled other unfinished assignments.

_____ / _____

7. The blank surface became wider and whiter.

_____ / _____

8. He hoped for inspiration.

_____ / _____

9. His thoughts left him struggling alone.

_____ / _____

10. He picked up his pen to write.

_____ / _____

**YOU WILL NOT NEED TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO PLAYER
TO CONTINUE WITH SECTION 3.**

Directions: Divide each sentence into its subject and predicate parts. After you have separated the sentence, write the SUBJECT and the VERB in the appropriate line beneath the sentence. **(Graders: this section has 3 answers per question, total 21.)**

Example:

My part-time job keeps me from taking a full class load.

subject word

verb

My part-time job / keeps me from taking a full class load.

Job keeps

1. My family goes to the beach every summer.

_____ / _____

2. The victim's family waited anxiously for the jury's verdict.

_____ / _____

3. Revenge ruins the soul.

_____ / _____

4. The president's secretary typed the memo at the last moment.

_____ / _____

5. Candidates for office watch trends in public opinion carefully.

_____ / _____

6. Some college students avoid classes that are too difficult.

_____ / _____

7. My sister Barbara enjoys her three grandchildren.

_____ / _____

Directions: First, write seven complete sentences in the spaces provided. Next, check the completeness of your sentences by separating them into their subject and predicate parts. (**Graders: this section has 2 answers per question, total 14.**)

Make sure that you include more than one word in the subject part of the sentence in at least 5 of your 7 sentences. Use the suggested topics for ideas.

Topics: any television program, any animal, high school, college, any kinds of music, any environmental problem, any movie, any sport, any sports figure, a favorite food, a good friend, any kind of car, any political figure, an ideal vacation, any other subject of your choice.

1. _____

_____ / _____

2. _____

_____ / _____

3. _____

_____ / _____

4. _____

_____ / _____

5. _____

_____ / _____

continued on Page 9 . . .

6. _____
_____ / _____

7. _____
_____ / _____