

# 1 What Is a Sentence?

- A sentence is a group of words that tells a whole thought.
- A sentence fragment is a group of words that does not tell a whole thought.

<b>Sentences</b>	Some birds make their homes near the water. The water provides food for the birds.
<b>Sentence fragments</b>	Some kinds of birds. Make their homes near the water.



For each pair, write the group of words that is a sentence.

**Example:** Some birds dive into the sea. Along the shore.

Some birds dive into the sea.

1. Gulls live near water. Every ocean.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Looking for food. Gulls fly over the ocean.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. They like to eat clams. Hiding from the hungry gulls.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. With a clam in its beak. A bird drops a clam on a rock.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Scattered over the entire beach. The shell breaks open.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Other gulls gather. Hearing the loud crack.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Loud cries fill the air. Hope for share in the meal.

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Suddenly the birds. The meal is over.

\_\_\_\_\_

# 2 Four Kinds of Sentences

- A **declarative sentence** tells something. It ends with a period (.).
- An **interrogative sentence** asks a question. It ends with a question mark (?).
- An **imperative sentence** gives an order. It ends with a period (.).
- An **exclamatory sentence** shows strong feeling. It ends with an exclamation point (!).



Declarative sentence	There are many kinds of shoes.
Interrogative sentence	How many kinds of shoes do you have?
Imperative sentence	Put on your shoes.
Exclamatory sentence	I love your new shoes!



Write each sentence. Add the correct end punctuation. The kind of sentence is shown in parentheses.

**Example:** Many people wear special shoes (**declarative**)  
Many people wear special shoes.

1. Tell me more about shoes (**imperative**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Special shoes are used in many sports (**declarative**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
3. What kind of shoes do football players wear (**interrogative**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
4. Do runners wear running shoes (**interrogative**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Of course they do (**exclamatory**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Look at their feet (**imperative**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

# 3 Subjects and Predicates

- The **subject** tells whom or what the sentence is about.
- The **predicate** tells what the subject is or does.
- The **complete subject** contains all the words in the subject.
- The **complete predicate** contains all the words in the predicate.

Complete Subjects	Complete Predicates
Some beautiful cities	are on the West Coast.
Tourists and residents	appreciate their beauty.



Write *complete subject* if the underlined words are the complete subject.  
Write *complete predicate* if the underlined words are the complete predicate.

Example: Many travelers visit Vancouver.

complete subject

1. Vancouver, Canada, is in British Columbia.
2. Holly visited the city of Vancouver.
3. She and her family liked it very much.
4. The weather was warm but rainy.
5. Tourists watched the ships in the harbor.
6. They felt happy.
7. The city of Vancouver is an important port.
8. Holly learned about it in school.
9. This city was named after George Vancouver.
10. Captain Vancouver was an explorer.
11. He and his sailors explored the area.
12. The city of Vancouver is not on Vancouver Island.
13. The city is on the mainland of Canada.
14. Its original name was Granville.
15. A railroad company renamed the city Vancouver.

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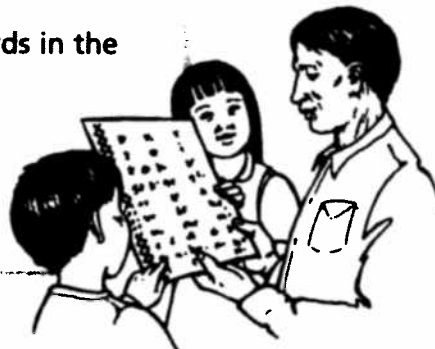
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# 4 Simple Subjects

- The simple subject is the main word or words in the complete subject.

**Sequoyah** developed a Cherokee alphabet.  
**Sequoyah's education** was very brief.  
**He** had seen European books, however.



The complete subject is underlined in each sentence.  
 Write the simple subject.

Example: Young Sequoyah was born in Tennessee.

Sequoyah

1. He traded with the early settlers. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Sequoyah took on the western name George Guess. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Sequoyah's family respected knowledge and tradition. \_\_\_\_\_
4. A method of written communication was needed. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The young Cherokee was fascinated with the printed word. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Sequoyah invented a system of writing. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Sequoyah's alphabet was suitable for the Cherokee language. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Many Cherokee people learned to read and write. \_\_\_\_\_
9. They began to publish books and newspapers. \_\_\_\_\_
10. The history of the people was recorded in writing. \_\_\_\_\_
11. The alphabet's inventor became a great leader. \_\_\_\_\_
12. The rights of Native Americans were being neglected. \_\_\_\_\_
13. The government moved the Cherokee to Oklahoma. \_\_\_\_\_
14. The Native American territories were far from Cherokee homelands. \_\_\_\_\_
15. Sequoyah's leadership helped his people's cause. \_\_\_\_\_
16. People named the sequoia tree after this great leader. \_\_\_\_\_

# 5 Simple Predicates

- The **simple predicate** is the main word or words in the complete predicate.

Lions **live** in Africa and India.

Lions **have been sent** to zoos around the world.



The complete predicate is underlined in each sentence. Write the simple predicate.

**Example:** Mai's favorite animals are lions.

are

1. A lion is a proud-looking animal.
2. Male lions have shaggy manes.
3. The lion is nicknamed the King of the Beasts.
4. These mighty cats stay in the open plains.
5. Lions prefer the high, dry country.
6. People call this kind of country a savanna.
7. Most lions live in Africa.
8. They can be found south of the Sahara.
9. The lions travel in family groups.
10. These groups are called prides.
11. A pride may include a father, a mother, and cubs.
12. Each pride remains in a certain territory.
13. The female lions hunt more often than the male lions.
14. The males protect the territory.
15. A lion's loud roar can frighten other animals.
16. Lions will surround their prey.
17. The lion shares its meal with the pride.
18. A well-fed lion will be peaceful.

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# 6 Subjects in Imperatives

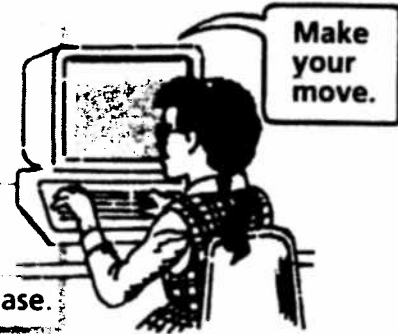
- The subject of an imperative sentence is *you*. Usually *you* is understood and does not appear in the sentence.

**Declarative sentence**

Martha promised to play a game with me.

**Imperative sentence**

(You) Play a game with me, please.



Write the simple subject of each sentence.

**Example:** This game is fun.

game

Choose another game.

(You)

1. Martha likes computer games.
2. They are like adventures.
3. Anyone can learn to play.
4. Try this one.
5. Answer each question.
6. Some questions are difficult.
7. Please try harder.
8. The winner of the game gets a reward.
9. The loser gets another chance.
10. Do not make me lose, please.
11. Help me play.
12. The game will be over soon.
13. Play very quickly.
14. Computers do not wait for anyone.
15. Please teach me another game.
16. Have fun.

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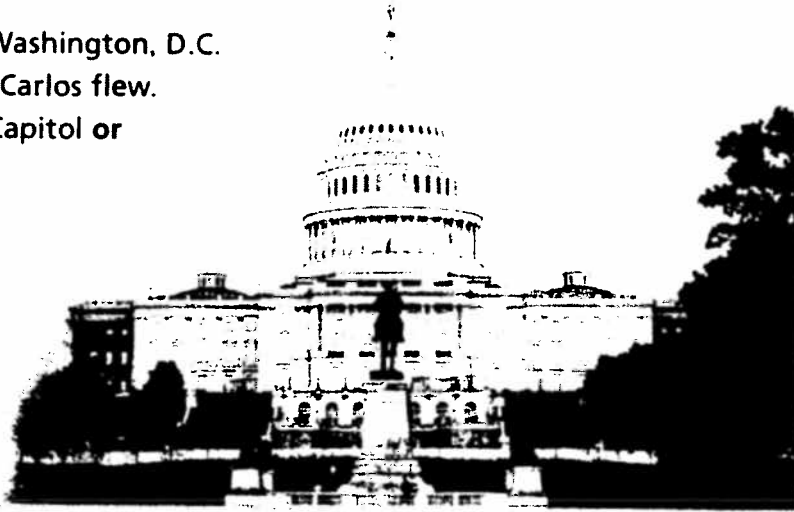


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# 7 Conjunctions

- A **conjunction** connects words or groups of words.  
*And, but, and or* are conjunctions.

Bert **and** Carlos visited Washington, D.C.  
Bert took the train, **but** Carlos flew.  
Bert hoped to visit the Capitol **or**  
other famous buildings.



Write the conjunction that you find in each sentence.

**Example:** You can travel to Washington by train, plane, or bus.

or

1. Bert and his friend liked Washington, D.C.
2. They could go sightseeing or sit under the cherry trees.
3. They visited the Lincoln Memorial and the Washington Monument.
4. The boys thought the monument was beautiful and interesting.
5. The boys rode up in an elevator and walked down with a guide.
6. It was 555 feet to the top, but the elevator was fast.
7. A pamphlet or a guide can give tourists historical information.
8. The monument was built by 1884, but it did not open until 1888.
9. The Lincoln Memorial was started in 1914 and finished in 1922.
10. Henry Bacon designed it, but Daniel French made the statue.
11. Bert and Carlos recognized the statue of Abraham Lincoln.
12. They will visit the city again next year or the year after.

# Writing Good Sentences

- Combine two or more short sentences that have related ideas.
- Place a comma and a conjunction such as *and*, *but*, or *or* between the sentences.

Two sentences	The tiny shrew is a mammal. The huge blue whale is a mammal.
Compound sentence	The tiny shrew is a mammal, <u>and</u> the huge blue whale is a mammal.

**Combining Sentences** Rewrite the short sentences as compound sentences. Use a comma and the conjunction in parentheses to combine the sentences.

**Example:** Some mammals live on land. Others live in water. (**but**)  
Some mammals live on land, but others live in water.

## Revising

- All mammals are vertebrates. All mammals are warm-blooded. (**and**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Almost all mammals are born live. A few mammals lay eggs. (**but**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Mammals are warm-blooded. They have protective hair or fur. (**and**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- There is one flying mammal. It is the bat. (**and**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- An Indian elephant is tall. Its African cousin is taller. (**but**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_
- Would you like to be an elephant? Would you rather be a lion? (**or**)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(continued)



## Writing Good Sentences *(continued from page 8)*

- You can break up stringy sentences by making short sentences that contain one idea or compound sentences that contain two related ideas.

Stringy Sentence	Short and Combined Sentences
Animals have adaptations that help them live and they use their claws and teeth to find food and they use their claws and teeth for protection.	Animals have adaptations that help them live. They use their claws and teeth to find food, and they use their claws and teeth for protection.

**Avoiding Stringy Sentences** Break up each stringy sentence. Write single ideas as short sentences, or use conjunctions to write pairs of ideas as compound sentences.

**Example:** Many animals have protective coloration and some mammals have striped coats and some have spotted coats.

Many animals have protective coloration. Some mammals have striped coats, and some have spotted coats.

### Revising

7. All young mammals feed on their mother's milk and they breathe air and their bodies are covered with fur or hair.

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8. Some animals change color with the seasons and in the winter their coats are white and in the summer they are brown.

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9. Deer grow antlers every year and in spring the antlers are covered with a thin skin and by summer they are full-grown.

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10. A tail can be a very useful thing and a rat may use its tail for balance and a monkey may use it to hang from a branch.

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# 8 Run-on Sentences

- A run-on sentence is two or more sentences that are put together incorrectly. Correct a run-on sentence by making separate sentences or by making a compound sentence.

Run-on sentence

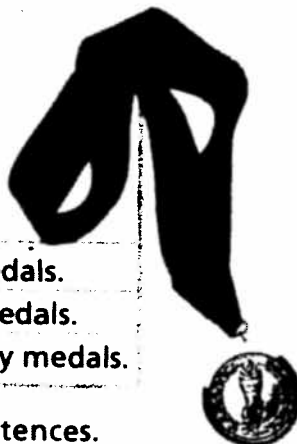
Wilma Rudolph was sick she won many medals.

Correct

Wilma Rudolph was sick. She won many medals.

Also correct

Wilma Rudolph was sick, but she won many medals.



Correct each run-on sentence by writing it as two separate sentences.

**Example:** Her family was poor there was no money for medicine.

Her family was poor. There was no money for medicine.

1. After years of work she learned to walk her family helped her.

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2. Her leg gained strength she ran in track meets at school.

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3. She went on to college Wilma continued to win trophies.

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4. In 1960 she went to the Olympics she won three gold medals.

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5. Wilma ran with grace and speed her nickname was the Black Gazelle.

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6. Wilma never forgot her family's help later she became a coach.

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