

CHAPTER

2

Subjects/ Nouns

Complete and Simple Subjects

The **complete subject** includes all the words that name *who* or *what* the sentence is about. The **simple subject** is the main word or words in the complete subject.

Complete Subject

The empty glass

Pieces of glass

Predicate

fell onto the floor.

scattered everywhere.

Simple Subject

The empty glass fell onto the floor.

Pieces of glass scattered everywhere.

Sometimes the simple subject and the complete subject in a sentence are the same.

Pieces scattered everywhere.

The subject usually comes at the beginning of a declarative sentence. Notice where it comes in these questions.

Did **the glass** fall?

Where are **the pieces**?

Vocabulary Power

tap·es·try

[ta'pə·strē] *n.* A heavy ornamental cloth with designs or pictures woven into it, usually hung on a wall or used to cover furniture.

Guided Practice

A. Identify the complete and simple subject in each sentence.

Example: Large machines weave cloth in factories.

Large machines, machines

1. Some cloth has colorful designs woven into it.
2. Tapestries often show scenes from history.
3. Students in our class saw a tapestry at the museum.
4. Did your class take a field trip to the museum?
5. Several groups of students take a field trip each year.

Nouns in Subjects

A **noun** is a word that names a person, a place, a thing, or an idea. The **simple subject** of a sentence is usually a noun.

You know that the subject of a sentence names the person or thing the sentence is about. A noun in the complete or simple subject names a person, place, thing, or idea. Simple subjects are usually nouns.

Kinds of Subjects

Person	Our librarian showed us a book about weaving.
Place	New York City has a large public library.
Thing	Craft and hobby books are popular.
Idea	Creativity helps people do things in new ways.

A complete subject may include more than one noun.

Weaving with **threads** of different **colors** makes beautiful cloth.
The simple subject is Weaving.

Guided Practice

A. Identify the noun or nouns in the complete subject of each sentence. Tell which noun is the simple subject.

Example: Strips of material are woven into fabric.
Strips, material; strips—simple subject

1. Paintings in ancient Egypt show weavers.
2. Weavers in China used thread made of silk.
3. Many groups of people used cotton.
4. Some craftspeople wove pictures into their cloth.
5. An inventor in England developed the first machine to weave cloth.
6. Machines in cloth factories produced cloth quickly.
7. Many people weave without using machines.
8. Some artists weave strips of colored paper.
9. People in art classes might weave yarn into wire sculptures.
10. A loom made of cardboard is handy for weaving.

Combining Sentences: Compound Subjects

A **compound subject** is two or more subjects that are joined by a **conjunction**.

You know that every sentence has a subject. Some sentences have two or more subjects that are joined by a conjunction. A conjunction is a joining word. Words such as *and* and *or* are conjunctions. If three or more subjects are joined by a conjunction in a compound subject, use commas to separate them.

Common Conjunctions

and or

Examples:

Articles, photographs, and advertisements are included in magazines.

Stories or poems appear in each issue.

Notice that a comma is not used before the conjunction if it joins only two nouns.

Two or more sentences with similar predicates can sometimes be combined. The subjects of the sentences are joined by a conjunction to form a compound subject.

Example:

Books can be made into movies. Plays can also be made into movies.

Books and plays can be made into movies.

Guided Practice

A. In each sentence, identify the complete subject and the conjunction that joins the nouns.

Example: Books and magazines are made of separate pieces of paper. *Books and magazines*

1. Pages and covers are the main parts of books.
2. Illustrations and pictures are sometimes printed in color.
3. Extra pages or special pages can be added to a book.
4. Glue, paste, or tape holds special pages in a book.
5. Bookbinders and bookmakers use machines to insert the extra pages.

