

# CHAPTER 4

## Predicates/ Verbs

### Vocabulary Power

ar•chi•tec•ture

[är'kə·tek'chər] *n.* The science or profession of designing and putting up buildings and other structures.

# Complete and Simple Predicates

The **complete predicate** includes all the words that tell what the subject of the sentence is or does. The **simple predicate** is the main word or words in the complete predicate.

You know that every sentence must have a subject and a predicate. A complete predicate often gives more information about the simple predicate. Sometimes the simple predicate and the complete predicate are the same.

### Examples:

Complete Predicate	Natalie <b>worked on the sculpture.</b>
Simple Predicate	Natalie <b>worked</b> on the sculpture.
Complete Predicate	Her clay sculpture <b>is beautiful.</b>
Simple Predicate	Her clay sculpture <b>is</b> beautiful.

## Guided Practice

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

**Examples:** Juan spoke to the class about architecture.  
*spoke to the class about architecture, spoke*  
Architects design buildings for our cities.  
*design buildings for our cities, design*

1. People cross the Brooklyn Bridge every day.
2. The bridge connects Manhattan and Long Island.
3. People traveled to Manhattan in boats long ago.
4. People use bridges now for city travel.
5. New Yorkers have pride in their many museums.
6. My friend and I visited one museum last week.
7. Statues, pottery, and vases lined the hallway.
8. The faces of the statues seemed real.
9. We looked with interest at the pottery.
10. All of the pottery had come from Mexico.



# Verbs in Predicates

Every **predicate** has a **verb** that tells what the subject is or does.

You know that every sentence must have a verb. The verb expresses action or being. The simple predicate in a sentence is always a verb. The verb may have more than one word.

**Examples:**

Michelangelo **was** an Italian sculptor in the 1500s.

He **carved** many marble statues.

Most people **admire** his work today.

We **have seen** pictures of his work.

Whether a word is a verb depends on the way it is used in a sentence. In which sentences below is *look* used as a verb?

**Examples:**

We **look** at the painting.

The face **looks** peaceful.

The face has a peaceful **look**.

In the first two sentences, *look* is a verb. It works with a subject to show action or being. In the third sentence, *look* is a noun. It names something that the face has.

## Guided Practice

A. Identify the verb in each sentence. Be ready to explain your answers.

**Examples:** Michelangelo worked for four years on a statue of Moses.

*worked*

Artists today still study the statue.

*study*

1. Michelangelo showed Moses as an old man with a long beard.
2. He began with a block of marble.
3. Michelangelo cut away pieces of the marble.
4. He carved the tiny details with smaller tools.
5. The figure of Moses appears thoughtful.



# Combining Sentences: Compound Predicates

A **compound predicate** is two or more predicates that have the same subject. The simple predicates in a compound predicate are usually joined by a **conjunction** such as *and*, *but*, or *or*.

Sometimes, two or more sentences have the same subject, but different verbs. You can combine the sentences into one sentence with a compound predicate. If there are three or more predicates in a compound predicate, use commas to separate them. Do not use a comma when there are only two predicates.

## Separate Sentences with the Same Subject

My sister paints pictures.  
My sister also draws cartoons.

Sometimes Nick and I talk  
about art.  
Sometimes we shop for supplies.  
Sometimes we visit museums.

## Sentence with Compound Predicate

My sister paints pictures **and**  
draws cartoons.

Sometimes Nick and I talk  
about art, shop for supplies, **or**  
visit museums.

## Guided Practice

A. Each of these sentences has a compound predicate. Tell what shorter sentences were combined to form each sentence.

**Example:** Nick made a vase and entered it in the art show.  
*Nick made a vase. Nick entered it in the art show.*

1. My friend went to the museum without me but met me afterward.
2. I went to the museum later and enjoyed my visit.
3. I copied patterns from ancient Greek vases or changed them to suit my style.
4. My friend Midori paints and makes jewelry.
5. Her glass vases win prizes and are popular as gifts.

