

Subjects and Predicates

Every sentence has a **subject** and a **predicate**. The **subject** is the part of the sentence that tells whom or what the sentence is about. All the words in the subject are called the **complete subject**. The **simple subject** is the most important word in the complete subject. A simple subject can be more than one word, as in *San Francisco*.

Complete Subject My grandfather from Japan traveled to California.

Simple Subject My grandfather from Japan traveled to California.

The **predicate** is the part of the sentence that tells what the subject is or does. All the words in the predicate are called the **complete predicate**. The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the most important word in the complete predicate. A simple predicate can be more than one word, as in *had lived*.

Complete Predicate My grandfather from Japan traveled to California.

Simple Predicate My grandfather from Japan traveled to California.

A **compound subject** is made up of two or more simple subjects. A **compound predicate** is made up of two or more simple predicates.

Compound Subject My sister and I were born in Japan.

Compound Predicate We live and work in the United States.

Directions Underline the complete subject of each sentence once. Underline the complete predicate twice.

1. My grandfather came from Japan.
2. He explored North America and settled in San Francisco.
3. His wife and daughter were born in Japan.
4. A terrible war destroyed his city.

Directions Circle the simple subject and the simple predicate of each sentence.

5. San Francisco was his favorite American city.
6. America's huge prairies reminded him of the ocean.
7. America has welcomed people from other lands.
8. This story will tell people about my grandfather's life.