

# Subjects and Verbs A

- 1b.** The **subject** tells *whom* or *what* the sentence is about.
- 1e.** The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.
- 1f.** A **compound subject** consists of two or more subjects that are joined by a conjunction and that have the same verb.
- 1g.** A **compound verb** consists of two or more verbs that are joined by a conjunction and that have the same subject.

**EXERCISE A** In each of the following sentences, underline the subject once and the verb twice.

**Example 1.** A calculator or an abacus will help you and will speed your calculations.

- Have you or one of your friends ever used an abacus?
- The abacus is an ancient arithmetic tool and consists of a frame with vertical wires or slots.
- Beads or balls may be moved up or down in the slots in various combinations.
- In this way, the user quickly performs calculations such as addition and subtraction.
- You and your friends can easily find more information about the abacus on the Internet.

**EXERCISE B** Combine each pair of sentences to create one sentence. Write the new sentence on the line provided. Then, underline the subject once and the verb twice. When you create a sentence with a compound subject, you may need to change the verb, too.

**Example 1.** Volleyball is a popular sport at my school. Football is also popular. \_\_\_\_\_

Volleyball and football are popular sports at my school.

- Basketball can give you a good cardiovascular workout. Track can do so, too.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Blue is our school color. Gold is our other school color. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- When will you practice your trumpet? When will you finish your homework? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Will you go to the game with Sandra's family? Will Bernard go with Sandra's family? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Members of the yearbook staff take photographs at every game. Journalists on the newspaper staff take photographs at every game. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

# Subjects and Verbs B

- 1b.** The **subject** tells *whom* or *what* the sentence is about.
- 1e.** The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.
- 1f.** A **compound subject** consists of two or more subjects that are joined by a conjunction and that have the same verb.
- 1g.** A **compound verb** consists of two or more verbs that are joined by a conjunction and that have the same subject.

**EXERCISE** In each of the following sentences, underline the subject once and the verb twice. Then, on the line provided, write *CV* if the verb is a compound verb, *CS* if the subject is a compound subject, or *CV,CS* if both the subject and the verb are compound. Write *N* if neither is compound.

**Example** CS 1. My mother and brother want a new puppy.

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Have you or Kimberly found your tap shoes yet?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Alec or James will wash and dry the dishes after dinner tonight.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. In my school, both the Spanish club and the German club have at least twenty members.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Where are the batteries for this flashlight?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. At the end of the school year, we will either take a class trip or have a party.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. She added the numbers and then checked the answer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Neither Steve nor Katya borrowed that book.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Andrés and Clarence searched the room and looked on all the shelves.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. You should wear sturdy shoes and pack a raincoat.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Are you expecting rain during the hike?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 11. The newspaper and the radio carried stories about the weather.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 12. Fog and rain are expected this afternoon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 13. We could cancel the hike and meet at the museum.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 14. The new exhibit about Egypt is open and should be interesting.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 15. Do you and your sister take the bus or walk to school?
- \_\_\_\_\_ 16. We usually take the bus in the morning and walk home in the afternoon.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 17. She has band practice and works in the library after school.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 18. My friend Nita and I belong to several of the same clubs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 19. Nita walks home with my sister and me on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 20. Either Max or his brother Sam rented a boat and went fishing last summer.