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.

1. Have you or one of your friends ever used an abacus?

2. The abacus is an ancient arithmetic tool and consists of a frame with vertical wires or slots.

3. Beads or balls may be moved up or down in the slots in various combinations.

4. In this way, the user quickly performs calculations such as addition and subtraction.

5. 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.

6. Basketball can give you a good cardiovascular workout. Track can do so, too.

7. Blue is our school color. Gold is our other school color.

8. When will you practice your trumpet? When will you finish your homework?

9. Will you go to the game with Sandra’s family? Will Bernard go with Sandra’s family?

10. 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.
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.