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1

THE SENTENCE: A COMPLETE THOUGHT

A *sentence* is a complete written or spoken thought. To express a complete thought, a sentence must have two parts. One part is the *subject*. It tells who or what the sentence is about. The other part is the *predicate*. It says something about the subject.

The pirates opened the treasure chest.

SUBJECT

PREDICATE

(Who?)

(What did they do?)

A

Read the groups of words listed below. If the word group is a sentence, write **S**. If it is not a sentence, decide what part of the complete thought is missing. Write **NS** for no subject or **NP** for no predicate.



1. _____ Blackbeard the pirate sailed the seas.
2. _____ His band of wild and dangerous men.
3. _____ Roamed the coastline on their sailing ship.
4. _____ His beard was as black as midnight.
5. _____ It reached to his waist.
6. _____ Boarded the boat.
7. _____ Blackbeard died in battle.

B

Add words to make complete sentences. Be sure your sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a period.

1. The stormy sea _____
(What did it do?)
2. _____ swam for shore
(Who or what did it?)
3. The storm _____
(What did it do?)
4. _____ disappeared forever
(Who or what did it?)
5. Today, ships in the area _____
(What do they do?)

C

Notice that the word groups below already have a subject and verb. Add more words to make a complete thought.

1. Sam likes _____
_____.
2. The night sky looks _____.
3. Becky only wears _____.
4. Most people fear _____.
5. This party seems _____.

DON'T FORGET!

A sentence must contain a subject and a predicate.



2

SUBJECTS AND PREDICATES

The *subject* of a sentence tells who or what the sentence is about. The *predicate* tells what the subject does or is.

Advertisements sell products.
SUBJECT PREDICATE
(What?) (What does it do?)

A

Underline the subject in each sentence.

1. The basketball star sells shoes.
2. I see him on television.
3. He wears Marvelo Star-Jumpers.
4. The shoes are red and gold.
5. He can jump very high.
6. Maybe I should buy the shoes.

B

Add a subject or a predicate to complete each sentence. Start the sentence with a capital letter and end it with a period.

1. _____ jumps high without fancy shoes.
2. _____ hurt my feet.
3. My favorite shoe store _____
4. No one on my team _____

C

Underline the predicate in each sentence.

1. I love the commercial with the talking dog.
2. He tells about Crispo Chips.
3. Real dogs can't talk.
4. Crispo Chips taste terrible.
5. Most people won't like the chips.
6. They will like the ad much better.