

Unit 3: Subjects of Sentences

THE PROBLEM

Is beautiful today.

Exercise 1: Look at the words in boxes and answer the questions below.

1. They **ran** to the park.
2. She **cooked** some spaghetti for dinner
3. Kenji **speaks** three languages.

Question 1: What do all the words in boxes have in common?

- a) They show action.
- b) They are things that people can see and touch.
- c) They are types of feeling.

Question 2: What do we call the boxed words?

- a) nouns
- b) pronouns
- c) verbs

Exercise 2: Look at the sentence and answer the questions below.

Omar took his TV to the repair shop.

Question 1: What three things can we see and touch in this sentence?

_____, _____, and _____

Question 2: Are these words called nouns or verbs? _____

Question 3: Which word shows action? _____

Question 4: Is that word a noun or a verb? _____

Exercise 3: ___ 1) In each sentence, circle the noun.
___ 2) Underline the verb.
___ 3) Answer the questions.

1. **Robert** left early.

Question 1: Who left? _____

2. His computer worked slowly.

Question 2: What worked? _____

3. The cat sat quietly.

Question 3: What sat? _____

Question 4: What do we call the nouns in the sentences above?

- a) subjects of the sentences
- b) verbs of the sentences

Exercise 4 : ___ 1) In each sentence, circle the subject.
___ 2) Underline the verb.
___ 3) Answer the questions.

1. The **dishes** fell on the floor.

Question 1: What fell?

- a) dishes
- b) floor

Question 2: What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *dishes* because it tells us what fell.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *floor* because it tells us what fell.

2. Steve drove his car.

Question 3: Who drove?

- a) Steve
- b) his car

Question 4: What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *car* because it tells us what Steve drove.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *Steve* because it tells us who drove.

3. His father bought a pizza for dinner.

Question 5: What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *dinner* because it tells us what bought a pizza.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *pizza* because it tells us what bought a pizza.
- c) The subject of the sentence is *father* because it tells us who bought a pizza.

4. Tomas is in love with Mimi.

Question 6: What is the subject of the sentence?

- a) The subject of the sentence is *Tomas* because it tells who is in love.
- b) The subject of the sentence is *Mimi* because it tells us the name of Tomas's lover.

Exercise 5: ___ 1) Circle the subjects.
 ___ 2) Underline the verbs.
 ___ 3) Give the reason for your choice of each subject.

1. **He** slept until noon.

Reason: "He" tells us who slept.

2. Sam got an interesting haircut.

Reason: _____

3. Amy was happy with her score.

Reason: _____

4. They found the money in the closet.

Reason: _____

Exercise 6: Look at the sentences below.

___1) If the sentence has a subject, write *OK*. (3 sentences are *OK*, including Sentence 2.)

___2) If the sentence needs a subject, write a correct sentence.

1. Went to the store.

Tom went to the store.

2. My boss wrote a report.

OK.

3. Gave me a ticket.

4. Were late for our airplane.

5. The dog dug a hole in the yard.

6. Stood in line for the movie.

7. Got an expensive car for his birthday.

8. Is a beautiful day.

9. Ate her dinner at 9 p.m.

10. The passengers are in their seats now.

Exercise 7: Write *S* above the subject of each sentence.

S

1. Jane read her book on the couch in the living room for two hours.
2. My bicycle fell in the bushes because of the wind.
3. I got a phone call at midnight.
4. The artist painted a picture of the snow-covered mountains.

Exercise 8: ___1) Fill in the blanks in these sentences.
___2) Write *S* above the subject of each sentence.

1. Last night, _____ watched TV for two hours.
2. My _____ played video games on her _____.
3. _____ talked to his _____ on the phone.

Exercise 9: Look at the subjects in these sentences and answer the question below.

S *S*

1. My father he is a doctor at a hospital in Seattle.
2. Good books they are important for our education.

Question: Are these sentences correct?

- a) Yes, we can have two subjects, like these, in a sentence.
- b) No, we should have only one of these words as the subject.

Exercise 10: Write the 2 sentences in Exercise 9 correctly.

1. _____

2. _____

Exercise 11: _____ 1) Write a paragraph with 5 sentences or more about the topic below.
_____ 2) Write *S* above the subjects.

Topic: This is what my _____ did on a recent vacation.
(family/friend/other)

