Name_____
Date_____

Complete Sentences

To make a complete sentence, you must have:

1) A simple subject
2) A simple predicate

_____

1) The **simple subject** is the main word that tells <u>who</u> or <u>what</u> the sentence is about.

Note: The subject is not a *part of speech*. It is a *phrasal constituent*.

Example: The <u>man</u> kicked the ball. (active voice)

In this example, the word "**man**" is the subject because it does the main action "**kicked**". The word "**ball**" is not the subject. The word "**ball**" is the object.

Example: The <u>ball</u> was kicked by the man. (passive voice)

In this example, the word "**ball**" is the subject because it receives the action "**was kicked by the man**". The word "**man**" is no longer the subject.

Directions: Underline the simple subjects in the following sentences.

1) I want a new car.

2) James is nice.

3) The sun is moving.

4) Max wrote the letter.

5) The letter was written by Max.

2) The **simple predicate** is the main verb in the sentence.

Example: Mary <u>plays the piano</u>.

In this example, the verb phrase "**plays the piano"** is the predicate.

Example: Josephine is having a nice day.

In this example, the verb phrase "**is having a nice day"** is the predicate.

Directions: Underline the simple predicates in the following sentences.

1) I run with my dog.

2) We made a cake.

3) The cake was made by us.

4) Jessica and Rebecca are playing the piano and singing.

5) We will be running in the race this Sunday.

Directions: Underline the simple subjects and draw a box around the simple predicates in the following sentences.

Example: Elise is going to sing in the concert tomorrow.

1) The dentist charges $6200 for an office visit.

2) The baby weighed 7.2 pounds at birth.

3) We need to make a new plan.

4) I want to go to the concert, but I don't have enough money.

5) My friend and I are going to the movies tonight.

Directions: Now try to write three complete sentences of your own. Try to underline the simple subjects and circle the simple predicates.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____