Grammar

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Sentences**

***Exercise A.* Identify the subjects and verbs in these simple sentences.**

**Circle the subject and underline the whole verb (helping and main verb).**

1. My best friend in the whole world is coming over to my house to visit me

this afternoon.

2. Three beautiful little kittens looked up at me from inside a box of old

clothes.

3. At the stroke of midnight, the carriage turned into a huge orange pumpkin.

4. A really friendly old man with long white whiskers lives in the apartment

above my aunt’s and uncle’s apartment.

5. Several of her favorite romantic love songs were playing on the radio that

afternoon in the park.

6. Cool, deep, dark blue water flowed through the rough limestone rocks in

the gorge.

7. One-hundred fifty-five dollars is certainly a lot of money for a young

person living with his or her parents.

8. The large red book sitting on the hall table was a dictionary published by

an encyclopedia company in the United States.

9. The three girls carried back packs filled with books, food, candy, clothes,

make-up, pens, paper, hairbrushes, and other assorted items.

10. I don’t remember the name of that tall, thin actor with the sparkling blue

eyes.

Grammar

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Sentences**

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***Simple sentences are independent clauses.***

***They contain a subject and a predicate.***

**Rule 3**: Simple sentences can be **declarative** or **interrogative**.

You can shop at the mall on the weekend. (**declarative**)

Can you shop at the mall on the weekend? (**interrogative**)

***Exercise B*. Identify the subject and predicate in these simple sentences.**

**Circle the simple subject and underline the simple predicate.**

1. Who can tell me the answer to the question about the Civil War?

2. The boy in the third row explained the role of slavery in the Civil War.

3. Several of the students were thinking about the final examinations in the

history course.

4. Which of the following words in this list have been misspelled?

5. Did Mary have time to call her brother this morning?

6. One of her younger cousins is having a birthday next Saturday.

7. Will you share your lunch with the new girl in class?

8. On Fridays, we usually go to the movies in the afternoon with my little

nephew, Jerry.

9. Where in the world did your sister put her purse and car keys?

10. When are you planning to come home from summer camp?

Grammar

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**Rule 4**: Simple sentences can have a verb in any **tense** (past, present, future),

**mood** (indicative or imperative), or **voice** (active or passive).

My friend shops at the mall on the weekend. (**present**)

My friend shopped at the mall last weekend. (**past**)

My friend will shop at the mall next weekend. (**future**)

You shop at the mall every weekend. (**indicative**)

Shop at the mall this weekend! (**imperative**; subject is “you” understood)

The next player at bat hit the baseball into left field. (**active**)

The baseball was hit into left field by the next player at bat. (**passive**)

***Exercise C*. Identify the subject and predicate in these simple sentences.**

**Circle the simple subject and underline the simple predicate.**

1. Three years ago my baby sister was born on the first day of January.

2. Put your dirty clothes in the basket in the upstairs bathroom, please.

3. The older boys were given a chance to buy raffle tickets after the meeting.

4. Most of the time my classmates were wearing heavy clothes in the winter

months.

5. The shiny yellow toy was easily caught by the eager collie puppy.

6. Both of my brothers will be in Oregon next week for the festival.

7. Please don’t leave your wet raincoat lying on the dining room chair.

8. She had been wondering about that idea for quite a while now.

9. Her left arm was badly broken at the wrist during the automobile accident.

10. In 2010, the leaders of the nations of this planet will face many important

environmental problems.

Grammar

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Sentences**

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***Simple sentences are independent clauses.***

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**Rule 5**: Simple sentences can have a **compound subject**.

Simon and Garfunkel recorded an album that year. (**compound subject**)

America’s best known novelists, journalists, and editors attended a

conference in New York last week. (**compound subject**)

Yellow-throated warblers, red-breasted robins, and flightless rails were

pictured in her new bird identification guide. (**compound subject; nouns**

**separated by modifiers**)

***Exercise D*. Identify the subject and predicate in these simple sentences.**

**Circle the nouns in the subject and underline the simple predicate.**

1. You and I know the names of these kinds of flowers.

2. Frisky squirrels, tiny, jewel-like hummingbirds, white-tailed deer, quick little

wild bunnies, and small black voles were hiding in the garden.

3. Barbara Kingsolver and Amy Tan are two of my sister’s favorite novelists.

4. Every six weeks or so, her next-door neighbors, younger cousins, and

grade school classmates came over to her house for a little tea party.

5. Are the violinists and the cellists ready to begin playing the nocturne yet?

6. The daily newspapers, television news, and other media were not given

enough information about the emergency.

7. Even in the middle of the summer, Jan and her dog liked to stay outdoors

all afternoon long.

8. Could you and your mother please meet with me after school next

Wednesday?

9. Three eggs, two cups of milk, a package of cheese, and chopped ham

went into the bowl to make a quiche.

10. Are tomatoes, potatoes, onions, and garlic your favorite foods?

Grammar

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Simple Sentences**

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***Simple sentences are independent clauses.***

***They contain a subject and a predicate.***

**Rule 6**: Simple sentences can have a **compound predicate**.

Marianne sang, danced, and played the violin with equal competence,

passion, and enthusiasm. (**compound predicate**)

Her last semester in school, the brilliant student received top marks on all

her final exams, graduated with honors, and was interviewed for a junior

faculty position at the university. (**compound predicate; verbs separated**

**by modifiers**)

***Exercise E*. Identify the subject and predicate in these simple sentences.**

**Circle the simple subject and underline the compound simple predicate .**

1. The telephone on the principal’s desk rang and rang and then suddenly

stopped ringing.

2. Who is coming to the party and bringing the ice cream?

3. Several of the trees at the arboretum had leafed out already and were

looking very full and beautiful.

4. The man in the brown raincoat slipped quietly around the corner and hid in

a dark doorway.

5. Wash and dry your hair first thing in the morning.

6. Will you sing me a song, show me a few dance steps, and then tell me a

story?

7. The girls hurried home with their packages under their arms, rushed up

the steps into the family room, and dropped all the boxes on the floor in

front of their mother.

8. He didn’t eat anything for supper or drink anything at all that evening.

9. Will the three of you please come over here, sit down on this bench, and

fill out these forms?

10. Last week she walked in the park for several hours in the morning, had a

healthy and delicious lunch with her friend in the middle of the afternoon,

and then slept like a log all night long.

Grammar

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**Simple Sentences**

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***Simple sentences are independent clauses.***

***They contain a subject and a predicate.***

**Rule 7**: Simple sentences can have both a **compound subject and a**

**compound predicate**.

The mashed avocado, minced garlic, olive oil, balsamic vinegar,

mayonnaise, and lemon-flavored pepper should be blended thoroughly,

whipped briefly for a light consistency, and served with warm tortillas.

(**compound subject and compound predicate**)

***Exercise F*. Identify the subject and the predicate in these simple**

**sentences. Circle the noun parts of the compound subject and underline**

**the verb parts of the compound predicate.**

1. A belted kingfisher, a robin, and a red cardinal sat on the tree branch for a

few seconds and then flew away.

2. Did the math teacher and the history teacher look in the lunchroom and

check in the auditorium for the missing books?

3. At the last minute, the melted marshmallows and the chocolate should be

placed on the graham cracker, held briefly over the campfire, and eaten

immediately.

4. Bright yellow daisies, purple coneflowers, orange and red milkweed, and

blue forget-me-nots grew rapidly, bloomed beautifully, and reseeded

themselves everywhere in her graveled garden path.

5. Will Mary, George, Jean, and Frances come forward, face the audience,

and say a few words?

6. Every so often, wild turkeys, deer, and owls can be seen or heard in the

forest preserve over by the lake.

7. The boy’s varied interests, his unusual talents, and his wonderful ability to

concentrate helped him succeed in his studies and made him a fascinating

person to talk to as well.

8. Sugar and flour mix together well and give substance to the cookie dough.

9. Have the three winners of the contest and their spouses taken the

vacation, bought the car, or asked for the cash instead?

10. The overpowering heat, the smothering humidity, and the lack of breeze

made me very uncomfortable and forced me to stay inside the house all

day.

Grammar

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**Simple Sentences**

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***Review Page***

**Identify the subject and the predicate in these *different types of simple***

***sentences*. Circle the noun (or compound nouns) in the subject and**

**underline the verb (or compound verbs) in the predicate.**

1. Will you go to the store with me to buy some groceries?

2. According to the nutrition magazine, watermelon and tomatoes

contain major amounts of a chemical called lycopene and are

good for you.

3. Because of the wind and the rain, the trees danced back and

forth, threw up their leafy arms, and sang to the sky above.

4. Don’t forget to take your vitamins in the morning with a full glass

of water.

5. The tennis ball was served across the net, hit back and forth

several times, and then dropped in the mud puddle at the back of

the court.

6. Have you brushed your teeth, combed your hair, and eaten your

breakfast yet?

7. Marianne laughed heartily, crossed her eyes like a crazy person,

and stuck her tongue out at me.

8. Place the pens, pencils, erasers, and pads of paper in the top

drawer of your desk.

9. His favorite rock group had a new CD for sale at the record store

on Main Street.

10. Didn’t she love to eat pizza, ice cream, and brownies as a little

girl?

Grammar

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**Simple Sentences**

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**Answer Key**

**Exercise A**

(subject / verb)

1. friend / is coming

2. kittens / looked

3. carriage / turned

4. man / lives

5. several / were playing

6. water / flowed

7. dollars / is

8. book / was

9. girls / carried

10. I / do remember

**Exercise B**

(subject / verb)

1. who / can tell

2. boy / explained

3. several / were thinking

4. which / have been misspelled

5. Mary / did have

6. one / is having

7. you / will share

8. we / go

9. sister / did put

10. you / are planning

**Exercise C**

(subject / verb)

1. sister / was born

2. you (understood) / put

3. boys / were given

4. classmates / were wearing

5. toy / was caught

6. both / will be

7. you (understood) / do leave

8. she / had been wondering

9. arm / was broken

10. leaders / will face

**Exercise D**

(subject / verb)

1. you and I / know

2. squirrels, hummingbirds, deer, bunnies, and voles / were hiding

3. Barbara Kingsolver and Amy Tan / are

4. neighbors, cousins, and classmates / came

5. violinists and cellists / are

6. newspapers, news, and media / were given

7. Jan and dog / liked

8. you and mother / meet

9. eggs, cups, and package / went

10. tomatoes, potatoes, onions, and garlic / are

Grammar

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**Simple Sentences**

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**Exercise E**

(subject / verb)

1. telephone / rang, rang, and

stopped

2. who / is coming and bringing

3. several / had leafed and were

looking

4. man / slipped and hid

5. you (understood) / wash and dry

6. you / will sing, show, and tell

7. girls / hurried, rushed, and dropped

8. he / did eat or drink

9. three / will come, sit, and fill

10. she / walked, had, and slept

**Exercise F**

(subject / verb)

1. kingfisher, robin, cardinal / sat and flew

2. math teacher and history teacher / look and check

3. marshmallows and chocolate / should be placed, held, and eaten

4. daisies, coneflowers, milkweed, and forget-me-nots / grew, bloomed, and

reseeded

5. Mary, George, Jean and Frances / come, face, and say

6. turkeys, deer, and owls / can be seen and heard

7. interests, talents, and ability / helped and made

8. sugar and flour / mix and give

9. winners and spouses / have taken, bought, or asked

10. heat, humidity, lack / made and forced

**REVIEW**

(subject / verb)

1. you / will go

2. watermelon and tomatoes / contain and are

3. trees / danced, threw, and sang

4. you (understood) / do forget

5. ball / was served, hit, and dropped

6. you / brushed, combed, and eaten

7. Marianne / laughed, crossed, and stuck

8. you (understood) / place

9. group / had

10. she / did love