

THE SIMPLE PREDICATE

A **simple predicate** is the main verb in a sentence. It includes any auxiliaries (helping words). A simple predicate can be an action verb or a linking verb. Every sentence must have a predicate.

Examples: We sold our old house.

The house was sold to a strange couple.

They have always been makers of rope.

They had been seen at every major jump rope contest for the past fifty years.

Do you understand the importance of these facts?

Underline the simple predicate in each of these sentences.

1. John danced a jig.
2. Mary tickled a pig.
3. Mark is a friend of mine.
4. Frank is going to Greece for his holiday.
5. Frieda has been singing for an hour.
6. Improvements in your life will always cost you something.
7. The river current was swift and strong.
8. Mary had always been a good swimmer.
9. That day, however, her strength was failing.
10. **Suddenly a dark-haired man dived into the water.**
11. He swam with a sure stroke toward the terrified woman.
12. Can you guess the rest?
13. Amanda took the money to the bank.
14. **She was saving it for her holiday.**
15. **All those coins were very heavy.**

KEEP WORKING: Make a list of ten verbs that have something to do with sports. Make a list of ten verbs that have something to do with shopping. Now write a sentence for each. Make the verbs predicates. Example: kicked—Matthew kicked the ball.

Parts of Sentences

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The activities in this book are not for students who are just beginning to learn grammar. They must have a knowledge of parts of speech before doing these exercises. This book is intended primarily as a *review* of parts of sentences and is particularly intended as a preparation for diagramming sentences. For *extensive* practice in subjects, predicates, etc., use other sources.

Other books in this series can prepare a student for these activities.

The entire series include:

- 1846 NOUNS AND PRONOUNS (Years 5-6)
- 1847 VERBS (Years 5-6)
- 1848 ADJECTIVES & ADVERBS (Years 5-6)
- 1849 PREPOSITIONS, CONJUNCTIONS AND INTERJECTIONS (Years 5-8)
- 1850 PARTS OF SENTENCES (Years 5-8)
- 1851 DIAGRAMMING SENTENCES (Years 5-8)

The activities in PARTS OF SENTENCES are sequential and follow this outline:

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Notice that we have included a list of definitions of grammatical terms on pages 20 and 21. Photocopy and distribute this list to the class for review and reference.