SIMPLE SUBJECTS

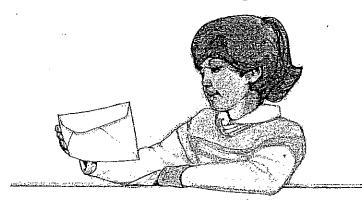
The complete subject of a sentence includes all the words that tell whom or what the sentence is about. Within the complete subject you can find the simple subject. The simple subject is the main word or words in the complete subject.

A mysterious envelope lay on the table.

Mary Ann was surprised.

Sometimes, the simple subject is the same as the complete subject.

Mary Ann thought about the problem.



Guided Practice

Tell which word or words make up the simple subject.

Example: The surprise confused Mary Ann. surprise

- 1. Mary Ann showed her mother the envelope.
- 2. Her mother noticed the address.
- 3. The envelope had only Mary Ann's name on it.
- 4. Who sent Mary Ann five dollars?
- 5. The girl was puzzled by the mysterious gift.



THINK

How can I decide which word or words make up the simple subject?



REMEMBER

- The simple subject is the main word or words in the complete subject.
- The simple subject can be the same as the complete subject.

More Practice

A. The complete subject is underlined in each sentence. Write the simple subject.

Example: The letter raises questions. letter

- 6. Mary Ann's birthday was months away.
- 7. The letter came from her town.
- 8. Her mother thought about the mystery.
- 9. The envelope gave no clue about the sender.
- 10. Mary Ann put it into her drawer.
- 11. She asked her friends many questions.
- 12. Nobody had the right answer.
- 13. Mary Ann thought about the envelope all day.
- B. Write each sentence. Add a simple subject to each group of words.

Example: had a plan Mother had a plan.

- 14. ____ finally asked her neighbors.
- 15. ____ had an idea.
- 16. "____ shoveled snow for Mrs. Jefferson, Mary Ann."
- 17. "Maybe ____ sent the money."
- 18. ____ asked Mrs. Jefferson about the envelope.
- 19. ____ smiled kindly at Mary Ann.
- **20.** ____ had a secret.

Extra Practice, page 31



WRITING APPLICATION A Map

Make a map that shows the way to a hidden treasure chest. Write a paragraph about how your friend will use the map to find the treasure. Ask a partner to draw one line under the simple subject in each of your sentences.



Simple Subjects

The simple subject of a sentence is within the complete subject.

It is the main word or words in the complete subject.

The simple subject tells you exactly whom or what the sentence is about.

complete subject

A simple envelope arrived.

simple subject

The simple subject is sometimes the same as the complete subject.

complete subject

Mary Jolpicked it up from the table.

simple subject

The complete subject in each sentence is underlined. Circle the simple subject.

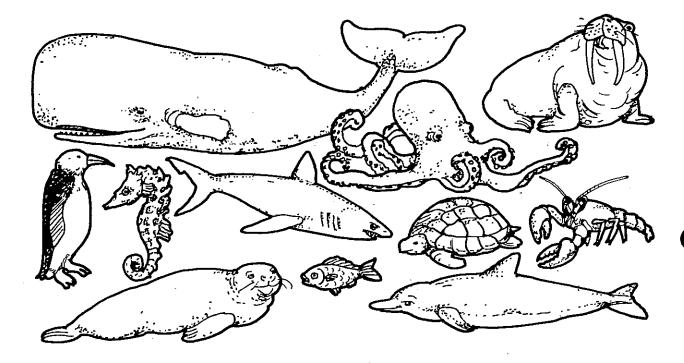
- Mary Jo noticed the address.
- It had Mary Jo's name on it.
- 3. The girl opened the envelope quickly.
- 4. Who sent this to her?
- 5. Her mother looked over her shoulder.
- 6. Mary Jo unfolded the pages of the letter.
- 7. The contents looked strange.
- 8. These things looked like tickets.
- 9. Who sent them?
- 10. Mom smiled happily.
- 11. The tickets were for Mom and Mary Jo.
- 12. They will leave for Spain in three days.
- 13. Uncle Josh lives in Spain.
- 14. He sent the tickets to them.
- 15. Mary Jo's uncle surprised her with tickets to Spain.

Simple Subjects



Sounds Fishy

Imagine that you and your partner are visiting a large aquarium or marine park, and you want to write about your visit. Add a complete subject to each predicate below to complete sentences about the aquarium. You can be as imaginative as you wish. When you are done, circle the simple subject within each complete subject you added.



flock to the aquarium.	1.
do wonderful tricks.	2
swims in its tank.	
crawls on the bottom.	4
eats small fish.	5
balance balls on their noses.	6
shows its huge teeth.	7
laugh at the penguins.	8
feeds the fish.	9
swim verv fast.	0.