

Verbs

The **predicate** of the sentence is also known as the **verb**.

There are two kinds of verbs, **action verbs** and **linking verbs**.

Action verbs show some kind of action in the sentence.

Examples: The ballerina **danced** in the show.

The cow **jumped** over the moon.

The complete predicate of a sentence with an action verb will contain a noun that is the object of the action.

There are two kinds of these object nouns – **direct objects** and **indirect objects**.

A **direct object** is a noun that comes after the action verb, and answers the question:

verb what?

Examples: The boy read a book.

Verb: read

Read what? book = direct object

We ate pizza.

Verb: ate

Ate what? pizza = direct object

An **indirect object** is a noun that comes between the action verb and the direct object, and answers the question:

verb to whom or what? or **verb from whom or what?**

Examples: Mom gave us a cookie.

Verb: gave

Direct Object: cookie

Gave cookie to whom? us = indirect object

The boy read his sister a story.

Verb: read

Direct Object: story

Read story to whom? sister = indirect object

A sentence can have a direct object without an indirect object, but it cannot have an indirect object without a direct object.

Linking verbs do not show action. Instead, they link the subject of the sentence to a word or words in the predicate part of the sentence that tell something about the subject.

Examples: Camels **are** desert animals.

The moon **seems** bright tonight.

Linking verbs are usually forms of the verb be, and verbs such as seem, become, etc.

Examples: am, are, is, was, were, will be

If the word the linking verb links the subject to is a describing word, it is called a **predicate adjective**.

Examples: The moon seems bright tonight.

Verb: seems

Subject: moon

Word describing moon: bright = predicate adjective

The little girl was sleepy.

Verb: was

Subject: girl

Word describing girl: sleepy = predicate adjective

If the word the linking verb links the subject to is a noun that renames the subject, it is called a **predicate noun**.

Examples: He is a good catcher.

Verb: is

Subject: he

Another word for "he": catcher = predicate noun

The girl became a famous dancer.

Verb: became

Subject: girl

Another word for "girl": dancer = predicate noun

1. Circle the verb in each sentence. On the line, write A if it is an action verb, and L if it is a linking verb.

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|-----------------------------|-------|--|-------|
| The sun is bright today. | _____ | The elephant squirted us with its trunk. | _____ |
| We are proud Americans. | _____ | She became confident after class. | _____ |
| This work is easy. | _____ | The boys kicked the ball over the fence. | _____ |
| The girls played hopscotch. | _____ | The wind blew hard during the storm. | _____ |
| The work seems hard today. | _____ | The dog ran down the street. | _____ |

2. Circle the action verb in each sentence. On the lines, write the direct objects and indirect objects. If there is no indirect object, write NONE on the line.

	Indirect Object (answers verb to whom?)	Direct Object (answers verb what?)
Mom fixed us dinner.	_____	_____
He read the book in fifteen minutes.	_____	_____
He bought his girlfriend a rose.	_____	_____
She threw her teammate the ball.	_____	_____
Dad gave the baby her bottle.	_____	_____

3. Underline the linking verb in each sentence. Circle the word in the predicate that the verb is linking to the subject. On the line, write PA if the linked word is a predicate adjective, and PN if the linked word is a predicate noun. Draw an arrow from the predicate adjective or predicate noun to the subject it is describing or renaming.

Examples: The bear was (huge). PA

The animals were (prisoners) in the zoo. PN

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|------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| The sun is bright today. | _____ | Cats are very good pets. | _____ |
| The flowers smell beautiful. | _____ | The rocks were mostly sandstone. | _____ |
| The dog was a wolfhound. | _____ | The children were tired this morning. | _____ |