

FOCUS

The simple subject is the common noun, proper noun, or pronoun that the verb acts upon. The subject is the “do-er” or the “be-er” of the sentence. It tells whom or what the sentence is about. When additional words help name or describe the simple subject, this is known as a complete subject.

Examples:	<i>A nurse</i> assisted the patient.	Simple Subject
	<i>The police officer</i> helped prevent the accident.	Complete Subject

CONNECT TO WRITING

The simple subject is usually found at the start of a declarative sentence (a sentence which makes a statement). To find the simple subject of the sentence, first look for any prepositional phrases. The simple subject of the sentence is never part of a prepositional phrase. Frequently, in imperative sentences (sentences which give commands or make requests), the simple subject, “you,” is implied (suggested, not stated).

PRACTICE

Underline the simple subjects found in this article.

Vacationing in Mexico, an experienced traveler will visit three famous cities. Tasco, known as the “Silver City” because of its rich silver mines, welcomes thousands of tourists each summer to see its timeless architecture. The cathedral impresses visitors from around the world. A second city, Guadalajara, shows off its rich colonial heritage. Having one of the most beautiful town squares, this city gives any traveler a complete history of Mexico. If given the opportunity, people not hesitate to visit the capital. Mexico City has many sites of archeological importance, including pyramids of the Aztec Empire. A trip to Mexico connects the traveler with his or her historical roots, as a North American.

What is the complete subject in the first sentence of the above story?

WRITE

Write your own sentence with a simple subject.
