

Complete Subjects and Predicates

Teaching

A **sentence** is a group of words that expresses a complete thought. Every complete sentence has two basic parts: a subject and a predicate.

The **complete subject** includes all the words that tell whom or what the sentence is about.

Nine planets orbit the sun.

The **complete predicate** includes the verb and all the words that tell what the subject is or what the subject does.

The word *planet* comes from a Greek word meaning "wanderer."

Identifying Complete Subjects and Complete Predicates

Underline the complete subject once and the complete predicate twice.

EXAMPLE Light from the sun makes life possible on Earth.

1. The sun is much bigger than all the other planets.
2. Planets in the solar system reflect light from the sun.
3. Stars twinkle in the sky at night.
4. Planets shine with a steadier light.
5. Stars such as our sun make their own light and heat.
6. Some of the planets have satellites, or moons.
7. Our planet has only one satellite.
8. The largest planet is Jupiter.
9. Asteroids, meteoroids, and comets belong to our solar system.
10. Many of the asteroids orbit in an area between Mars and Jupiter.
11. The surface of Mercury is covered with many craters.
12. Masses of clouds cover the surface of Venus.
13. Large amounts of iron in its rocks give Mars a reddish color.
14. One of the moons of Jupiter is named *Ganymede*.
15. Ganymede is the biggest satellite in our solar system.
16. The rings of Saturn can be seen through a telescope.
17. The *Voyager 2* mission discovered ten new moons of Uranus.
18. *Voyager* sent scientists new information about Neptune.
19. Many astronomers use telescopes for studying the universe.
20. Some astronomers analyze light and radio waves.
21. The Hubble Space Telescope sends scientists new information daily.
22. The planets closest to Earth are Mercury, Venus, and Mars.