

Predicate Nominatives and Predicate Adjectives

A **predicate nominative** is a noun or pronoun that follows a linking verb and renames or identifies the subject.

(Remember – a linking verb is also called a *state-of-being* verb. It is not doing any action.)

Examples:

Nina's **aunt** is a police **officer**. [*Officer* is a noun that renames the subject *aunt*.]

The **person** in charge of the investigation is **she**. [*She* is a pronoun that identifies the subject *person*.]

A **predicate adjective** is an adjective that follows a linking verb and modifies, or describes, the subject.

(Remember – a linking verb is also called a *state-of-being* verb. It is not doing any action.)

Examples:

Justin seems **angry** about something. [*Angry* is an adjective that describes the subject *Justin*.]

The **quart** of milk smells **sour**. [*Sour* is an adjective that describes the subject *quart*.]

Practice: In each sentence, underline the predicate nominative or predicate adjective. Write **PN** on the line provided if the word you underlined is a **predicate nominative**, or write **PA** on the line provided if the word you underlined is a **predicate adjective**.

Examples:

PN The hardest test questions are essays.

PA Sandy feels uncomfortable and scared in airplanes.

- _____ Jalapeno peppers taste fiery.
- _____ Rachel became the youngest member of the band.
- _____ The lost cat is gray.
- _____ Scorpions are very poisonous.
- _____ The most powerful man in America is the president.
- _____ Louis and Clark were frontier pioneers.
- _____ The new Safeway is huge.
- _____ The pop machines in the lobby were empty.
- _____ Gatorade is an essential drink for runners.
- _____ The green grapes are small and sour.
- _____ Ronald Regan was an actor and president.
- _____ The weather was sunny and bright.
- _____ Tacos taste good.
- _____ The peso is Mexico's currency.
- _____ In the wild west, cowboys were outlaws.
- _____ My little sister is a registered nurse.
- _____ Steve's story seems strange to us.
- _____ The kangaroo is a marsupial.
- _____ The kindergarten classes are wild and noisy.
- _____ The last day of school is Friday.