

Parts of the Sentence Exercises
--

Identifying Subjects and Verbs (1)

For each of the following sentences, identify the subject and the verb. Be sure to include all parts of a compound subject or a compound verb and all words in a verb phrase.

Example:

In ancient Japan, the fierce samurai and others like him ruled society with an iron hand.

1. The men, women, and children of the peasant class lived in terror of these landlord-warriors.
2. A samurai's powerful position gave him the right to kill any disobedient or disrespectful peasant.
3. Did anyone in Japan refuse to serve the samurai?
4. There was one dedicated group of rebels, called ninja, meaning "stealers in."
5. Off to the barren mountain regions of Iga and Koga fled the ninja people with their families.
6. There they could train their children in the martial arts of ninjutsu.
7. Lessons in camouflage, escape, and evasion were taught to children as young as one or two years of age.
8. Childhood games also provided practice in both armed and unarmed conflict.
9. The ninja sneaked down into the settled areas and struck at the samurai in any way possible.
10. In time, the ninja warriors gained a reputation all over Japan and were feared by the mighty samurai.

Identifying Subjects and Verbs (2)

For each of the following sentences, identify the subject and the verb. Be sure to include all parts of a compound subject or a compound verb and all words in a verb phrase.

1. English and Spanish share common linguistic roots.
2. Elephants stood and grazed.
3. Ships were docking and loading.
4. William Monroe Trotter and W.E.B. DuBois criticized and challenged Booker T. Washington.
5. The Blackfoot legends often speak of buffalo.