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Lesson 1: Simple Subject and Main Verb

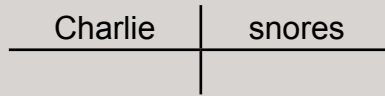
A simple sentence has a noun (subject) and a verb (predicate).

To diagram a sentence, start with a main line that has a vertical (subject/predicate) line through it.



Write the **simple subject** before the vertical line and the *main verb* (predicate) after. The first word of the sentence must be capitalized, even in a diagram. No ending punctuation, commas, colons, or semi-colons are used in a diagram.

Charlie snores!



1. Each sentence diagram below has an error. Diagram each sentence correctly.

- a. Cats purr.



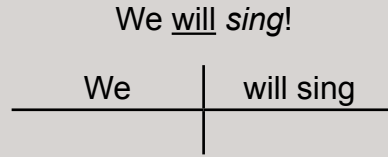
- b. Chickens cluck.



- c. Artists draw.

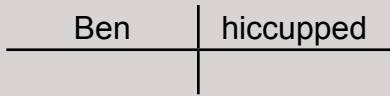


Helping verbs are diagrammed with the *main verb* on the right side of the vertical subject/predicate line.

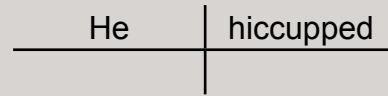


The **subject** of a sentence can be a noun or a pronoun.

Ben hiccupped.



He hiccupped.



2. Fill in the diagram for each sentence.

a. Flowers grow.

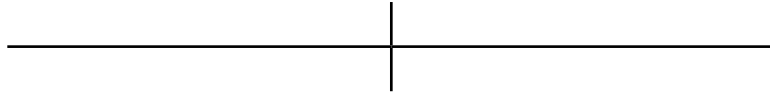
b. Emily should read.

c. She sneezed.

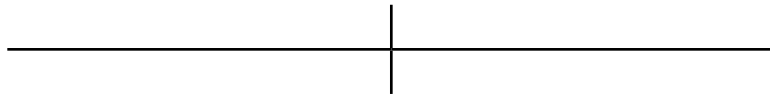
d. They had eaten.

3. Write a sentence to match each diagram. Then complete the diagram.

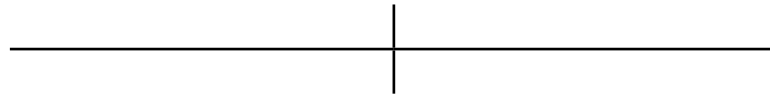
a.



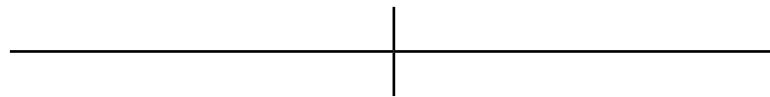
b.



c.



d.



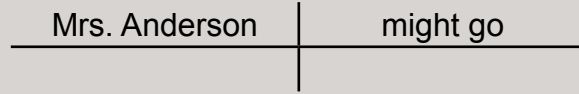
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If the subject is a **two-word name**, the whole name is diagrammed on the main line.

Uncle Fritz snores.



Mrs. Anderson might go.



4. Diagram each sentence.

a. Mimi bakes.

b. He has spoken.

c. Mr. Cavanaugh tripped.

d. Grandma Polly will visit.