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Sentence Forms

Subject and Predicate

Resource: *The LB Brief Handbook*, 5th edition, beginning on page 198.

- Every complete sentence contains two parts: a **subject** and a **predicate**. The **subject** is what (or whom) the sentence is about while the **predicate** tells something about the subject.
- In the following sentences, the *predicate is italicized* while **the subject is bolded**.
 - **Example: Judy** *runs*.
 - **Example: Judy and her dog** *run on the beach every morning*.
- To determine the subject of a sentence, first isolate the verb, and then make a question by placing "who?" or "what?" before it -- the answer is the subject.
 - **Example: The audience** *littered the theatre floor with torn wrappings and spilled popcorn*.
 - The verb in the above sentence is "littered." Who or what littered? The audience did.
 - "The audience" is the subject of the sentence.
 - The predicate always includes the verb, and describes something about the subject.
 - What about the audience? It "littered the theatre floor with torn wrappings and spilled popcorn."