SUBJECTS AND VERBS

Learning Outcome: Upon successful completion of this worksheet, students will be able to locate subjects and verbs in sentences.

Before you begin: If you need to refresh your memory about subjects and verbs, please consult a handbook like Diana Hacker’s A Writer’s Reference here in the WRC or visit The Guide to Grammar at http://grammar.ccc.commnet.edu/grammar/index2.htm.

When you are done: Worksheets are designed to be a self-teaching opportunity. Therefore, we provide the answer keys so that, when you are done, you can check your answers. Should you want to consult with a professor on duty about your answers, please be sure to check your answers first.

Directions: Identify the subjects and verbs in the following sentences by putting one line under the subject and two lines under the verb or verbs. Hint: It is helpful to locate, and cross out, the prepositional phrases first because you will never find the subject of a sentence in a prepositional phrase.

Example: After the storm, a rainbow appeared.

1. Beside the old house stood an overgrown cemetery.
2. Are you sure of the loyalty of the king’s guards?
3. As a freshman, Dwayne engaged in campus politics.
4. One of the reasons for his success is his courage.
5. The minaret of the new mosque could be seen in the distance.
6. Marcela had never realized the importance of good eye contact and a firm handshake.
7. The old town, once a thriving community, is now a desolate ghost town.
8. I would classify that car’s style as classic.

OVER
9. There are various reasons for Kanye’s strange behavior.
10. Without any warning, the horse reared and galloped away.
11. Have you noticed the change in temperature?
12. Many different brands of coffee are now available.
13. After waiting for ten minutes, we met the famous professor.
14. Some of the new students are traveling from neighboring states.
15. With a hearty laugh, Miguel turned and disappeared.
16. Are you certain of the source of the rumor?
17. None of the speakers made a good impression.
18. What did Whitney and Alexis say about the opera?
19. To some people, opera can be dull.
20. Yoshi and Chen stayed and talked for hours.