

# Unit 11 Parts of the Sentence

English 9 • Mr. Dan Diercks

A **Subject** is a noun or pronoun that tells what the sentence is about.

*Most conscientious **students** prepare for tests.*

A **Predicate** is a verb or verb phrase (helper + main verb) that expresses action or makes a statement about the subject.

*Most conscientious students **prepare** for tests.*

**Action Verbs** carry the action of the subject by telling what it is doing. Sometimes action verbs show mental action (*My mother really **understands** my problems*) rather than physical action (*Jake **kicked** a field goal*).

**Linking Verbs** carry no action. They are usually called verbs of "being." Linking verbs link the subject to another word in the sentence, the subject complement (predicate nominative or predicate adjective). Common linking verbs are:

Forms of the verb 'to be': *am, is, are, was, were*, etc.

Other **Linking Verbs**: *look, stay, taste, remain, grow, smell, seem, appear, feel, become, sound*. This group may also be used as action verbs, too.

**Complements**  
are words or groups of words that complete the meaning of the verb.

## Subject Complements

① **Direct Object** answers the question *what?* or *whom?* after an action verb

*Jeff threw the **baseball** to home plate.*

② **Indirect Object** answers the question *to whom?* *to what?* *for whom?* *for what?* after an action verb.

*Jeff threw **Kevin** the baseball to home plate.*

③ **Object Complement** answers the question *what?* after the direct object and completes the meaning of the direct object by identifying it (noun, pronoun) or describing it (adjective).

*The principal made school **enjoyable**.*

④ **Predicate Nominative** is a noun or pronoun that follows a linking verb and points back to the subject to rename it or identify it further.

*The woman in the blue car is my <sup>noun</sup> **mother**.*

⑤ **Predicate Adjective** is an adjective that follows a linking verb and points back to the subject by describing it.

*The woman in the blue car is <sup>adjective</sup> **beautiful**.*