The conventions of standard English grammar and usage are essential for communication and writing. Teach essential grammar skills with interesting practice and review pages that will have wide appeal for students. After basic principles of grammar are presented, opportunity is given to practice these key concepts in context. Grammar skills are broken into manageable parts and reinforced throughout to ensure student success. Each activity is aligned to the Common Core and current state and national standards.
Sentences: Recognition

A sentence is a group of words that express a complete thought.

Label each group of words as a sentence (S) or not a sentence (NS).

1. People admire the work of Orville and Wilbur Wright.
2. They worked in the field of aviation.
3. To try the airplane.
4. The wind across the sand.
5. December 14, 1903, was a cold day.
6. Wilbur was the first to try the plane.
7. It stayed in the air just two-and-one-half seconds.
8. This unsuccessful flight.
9. Three days later, Orville flew the plane.
10. It flew 120 feet in 12 seconds.
11. The two brothers were happy with this flight.
12. On the same day, December 17.
13. Orville made another flight, and Wilbur made two.
14. The longest flight lasted 59 seconds.
15. Flew 852 feet.
16. These early flights were just the beginning.
17. Spent four years preparing.
18. Orville and Wilbur Wright were serious about flying.
19. Confident of their hard work.
20. They would be amazed by the progress in aviation.
Name

Sentences: Recognition

Label each sentence with C (complete thought) or NC (not a complete thought).

_____ 1. A greenhouse is a building.
_____ 2. Mostly glass windows and a glass roof.
_____ 3. The lighting in the greenhouse.
_____ 4. The building is not green.
_____ 5. It is colorless.
_____ 6. Many green things in the greenhouse.
_____ 7. The glass protects the plants.
_____ 8. In winter, a greenhouse is heated.
_____ 9. Much care is needed for the plants.
____ 10. Plants are cared for each day.
____ 11. Bugs are sometimes a problem.
____ 12. Greenhouse with many different areas.
____ 13. Spray all plants twice a year.
____ 14. Plants can be grown during any season.
____ 15. Many families in the north.
____ 16. Some vegetables by the door.
____ 17. You can harvest vegetables in a greenhouse.
____ 18. When spring comes, plants may be removed.
____ 19. Watch them grow.
____ 20. Come visit our greenhouse.

On another sheet of paper, rewrite the incomplete thoughts as sentences.
Sentences: Subjects

The subject is the part of a sentence that names a person, a place, or a thing about which a statement is made.

Underline each subject.

1. Central America is a narrow stretch of land that connects North America and South America.
2. It is part of the North American continent.
3. There are seven small countries that make up Central America.
4. Central America is not as large as the state of Texas.
5. The countries that make up Central America are Belize, Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Panama.
6. Central America is positioned in Earth’s northern and western hemispheres.
7. The US Panama Canal Zone is also in this area.
8. The people of Central America belong to a variety of different groups.
9. In earlier times, there were many different tribes.
10. The tribes were different in language, appearance, and way of living.
11. The Mayas were the most important.
12. They built great cities on the plains in Guatemala.
13. The Mayas built temples that looked like the pyramids in Egypt.
14. The Aztec Indians from Mexico had a great civilization.
15. The Spaniards began to settle in Central America about 500 years ago.
16. They came in large numbers.
17. Most people in Central America are Roman Catholic.
18. They speak Spanish but learn English in school.
19. Central America is mostly made up of high mountains.
20. The people are kind and warm, welcoming to travelers.
Sentences: Complete Subjects

A subject with all its modifiers is called the complete subject.

Underline each complete subject.

1. The St. Louis Zoo is a great place to visit.
2. The circus seals perform daily.
3. The people in the arena cheered.
4. A trained juggler entertained us.
5. The furry baby bear jumped out of his basket.
6. The frightened little lion ran to his mother.
7. The tall giraffes ate leaves from treetops.
8. A vivacious monkey danced to some disco music.
9. Enormous elephants held on to each other.
10. The brightly colored peacock opened his feathers.
11. Animals were fed at feeding time.
12. The llama came to the zoo from South America.
13. Tall weeds grew over part of the zoo until the goats started eating them.
14. My teacher told us the giraffes gallop very fast.
15. The black and white penguins looked like they had on tuxedos.
17. The long, thick snakes gave me an eerie feeling.
18. The old grizzly bear was taking a nap.
19. The 1904 Bird House was an exciting exhibit.
20. My day at the zoo was terrific.
Sentences: Predicates

The **predicate** is the part of a sentence that tells something about the subject. All sentences must contain a predicate, which always includes a verb.

Circle the verb in each predicate.

1. British Columbia is the western-most province in Canada.
2. Early settlers came from Great Britain.
3. Most present-day residents are Canadian born.
4. The people work in a variety of industries.
5. They work in sawmills, fish canneries, and wood factories.
6. The lumberjacks cut wood in the great northern forests.
7. Many people farm the land.
8. British Columbia ranks third in the production of copper, gold, and coal.
9. The Anglican church is the largest in British Columbia.
10. British Columbia is extremely mountainous.
11. British Columbia has a warmer climate than the other Canadian provinces.
12. Captain James Cook landed on Vancouver Island more than 200 years ago.
14. Gold was discovered in this area in the 1850s.
15. Today, British Columbia ships products all over the world.
16. It was difficult to build a railroad because of the high mountains.
17. Trade flourished and cities grew rapidly.
18. The lumber industry grew rapidly.
19. The water route from Vancouver to Alaska is one of the most beautiful trips in the world.
20. There are many attractions to visit in British Columbia.
Sentences: Complete Predicates

The simple predicate with all of its modifiers is called the complete predicate.

Underline each complete predicate.

1. Did you know the ancient Greeks wrote many plays?
2. The history of Greece goes back for thousands of years.
3. The earliest record shows the beginning of Greece in 776 BC.
4. The Greek civilization came to its climax in 450 BC.
5. The expanding Roman Empire overshadowed Greece.
6. The ancient Greeks did not have just one government.
7. They lived in separate city-states.
8. Early Greeks lived in low houses.
9. The public buildings in a Greek city were very beautiful.
10. Most of the public buildings were temples to gods.
11. The Greeks worshipped many gods.
12. The Greeks built the first open-air theater.
13. All of the characters were played by men.
15. The best athletes would meet every four years in Olympia.
16. Ancient Greece was the center of science.
17. Many early Greeks gave much wisdom to the world.
18. In ancient Greece, many wars were fought between the city-states.
19. The Greeks taught the Romans much about art and literature.
20. The history of ancient Greece can be divided into three main periods.
Sentences: Compound Predicates

A sentence may have a compound predicate. A conjunction connects the compound predicate of a sentence.

Underline each part of the compound predicate and circle each conjunction that connects them.

1. We will read and study about insects.
2. Insects live and reproduce nearly all over the world.
3. Many insects live and die within a relatively short period of time.
4. Some insects develop and grow in four stages.
5. Other insects hatch and emerge from their eggs looking like adult insects.
6. Some insects grow and shed their skins several times during their life cycles.
7. Some types of insects live and work in big insect societies.
8. Experts identified and labeled the three body parts of insects.
9. All insects have and use six legs and one pair of antennae.
10. Some insects crawl and hop.
11. Other insects jump or walk.
12. Most insects walk or fly.
13. Many insects possess and use wings as their chief means of movement.
14. Some can fly and glide through the air for considerable distances.
15. Most insects inhale and exhale air.
16. Tiny tubes receive and send air to all parts of their bodies.
17. Air enters and reaches the tubes through tiny holes called spiracles.
18. Scientists classified and grouped the hundreds of thousands of insects into various orders.
Sentences: Review

Circle each simple subject and underline the verb in each predicate.

1. Charlotte Brontë wrote the book *Jane Eyre*.
2. Emily Brontë wrote the book *Wuthering Heights*.
3. The two sisters lived in Yorkshire, England.
4. These women suffered tragedies and poor health.
5. The sisters wrote stories as a relief from their problems.
6. Charlotte wrote the book *Jane Eyre* from a woman’s point of view.
7. The book broke with traditional writing.
8. The heroine of the story was a realistic character.
9. The book grew in appreciation through the years.
10. Emily Brontë polished her writing ability.
11. This writer placed her deep feelings in the characters of her story.
12. Emily was a shy woman.
13. The women avoided people outside their own family.
14. Writing was an outlet for Charlotte and Emily Brontë.
15. The sisters became famous.
16. Their two books are masterpieces.
17. Many people read their books.
18. The novels hold a high place in literature.
Sentences: Review

Circle each complete subject and underline each complete predicate.

1. Germany is a country in central Europe.
2. The people of Germany speak the German language.
3. In 1939, when World War II began, Germany was the richest country in Europe.
4. It was also the most powerful.
5. The German people called this country "Deutschland."
6. Most of the people in Germany descended from Germanic tribes.
7. The Germans who live in Northern Germany are mainly Protestants.
8. Those who live in the southern part are mostly Roman Catholics.
9. The Protestant denomination of Lutheranism was founded by a German, Martin Luther.
10. German people are extremely hard workers.
11. They have always been great scholars.
12. The Germans have led the world in science.
13. Many great works of literature have been written by Germans.
14. Some of the world's most beautiful music was composed by German composers.
Sentence Types: Simple and Compound

A simple sentence contains one subject and one predicate.
A compound sentence contains two independent sentences (clauses) which are closely related. A conjunction usually joins the two clauses of a compound sentence.

Label each sentence below as a simple (S) or a compound (C) sentence. In each compound sentence, circle the conjunction which joins the clauses.

______ 1. Many children fly kites for fun.
______ 2. We don’t know who invented the kite, but the Chinese used a flat kite 2,000 years ago.
______ 3. The Chinese enjoy flying kites very much, and they have a national holiday called Kites’ Day.
______ 4. Kites have meant a great deal to the people of China, Japan, and Korea.
______ 5. Even adults fly kites in these countries.
______ 6. Kites are used as toys, but they have been used for other purposes too.
______ 7. The ancient Chinese flew kites to drive away evil spirits.
______ 8. Weather forecasters have used kites to send weather instruments high into the air.
______ 9. A kite played an important part in a very famous experiment.
______ 10. Benjamin Franklin flew a kite during a thunderstorm, and he discovered that lightning was a spark of electricity.
______ 11. Ordinary flat kites must have tails.
______ 12. The tail weighs down the lower end, and this helps to keep the kite from nosediving.
______ 13. Box kites do not need tails.
______ 14. Many kites are brightly decorated.
______ 15. The Chinese sometimes attach streamers to their kites.
______ 16. A day with gentle breezes is best for kite flying.