

Subjects and Verbs (Compound Subjects and

Verbs) • Practice 1

Compound Subjects and Verbs A *compound subject* is two or more subjects that have the same verb and are joined by a conjunction such as *and* or *or*. A *compound verb* is two or more verbs that have the same subject and are joined by a conjunction such as *and* or *or*.

COMPOUND SUBJECT
Henry, Florence, and the Broudys spent their vacation together.
COMPOUND VERB
The storm continued and worsened throughout the night.

Exercise 1 Recognizing Compound Subjects. Underline the nouns or pronouns in each compound subject.

EXAMPLE: The pitcher and the catcher must have good communication.

- 1. Neither Jake nor I understood the problem.
- 2. The President and the Vice President rode in separate cars.
- 3. The Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Supreme Court assemble for the State of the Union Address.
- 4. Not only the guests but also the hosts enjoyed the party.
- 5. Both lilacs and roses are highly scented flowers.
- 6. Shrimp and other shellfish are good sources of iodine.
- 7. Oranges, lemons, limes, and grapefruits are citrus fruits.
- 8. Paul and I loved our new bunk beds.
- 9. The museum guide or one of the guards should be able to direct you.
- 10. Measles and mumps have been nearly eliminated by vaccines.

Exercise 2 Recognizing Compound Verbs. Underline the verbs in each compound verb.

EXAMPLE: The sales representative opened her bag and began her talk.

- 1. The plane touched the ground and rolled to a stop.
- 2. Amanda did not give up, but practiced her music even harder.
- 3. Joe writes with his right hand but bats with his left.
- 4. Ginny often writes or calls home from college.
- 5. Kelly added the vegetables, adjusted the seasoning, and turned the soup down to a simmer.
- 6. The audience clapped, cheered, and called for an encore.
- 7. Jessica put down her book and yawned.
- 8. Pam checked the card catalog but found few books on her topic.
- 9. The clematis overgrew the trellis and began climbing the chimney.
- 10. The troops neither retreated nor surrendered.