

Simple and Complete Predicates

- 1e.** The **simple predicate**, or **verb**, is the main word or word group that tells something about the subject.

The simple predicate is part of the **complete predicate**, which consists of a verb and all the words that describe the verb and complete its meaning.

SENTENCE The party for my grandparents' fiftieth anniversary ended with a grand display of fireworks.

COMPLETE PREDICATE ended with a grand display of fireworks

SIMPLE PREDICATE ended

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, underline the complete predicate and circle the simple predicate.

Example 1. The musician played a twelve-string guitar.

1. The guitarist put new strings on her guitar.
2. The new strings sounded much better.
3. She tuned her guitar several times.
4. The guitarist played the first string with the help of a pitch pipe.
5. She then tuned all the strings to the first string.
6. Strings in tune are important to the musician.
7. The guitarist has a good ear for pitch.
8. She tried several chords on her guitar.
9. Then she made some adjustments to the tuning.
10. The new strings stretched a bit.
11. Some strings are lighter than others.
12. Do many guitarists prefer the lightest strings?
13. Sometimes the guitarist uses a thumb pick.
14. She plays the low notes with the thumb pick.
15. The guitarist often sings her own lyrics with the chords.
16. She uses a capo for some songs.
17. Capos change the pitch of the strings.
18. Capos fit around the neck of the guitar.
19. The musician plays in a different key with a capo.
20. Have you ever played a guitar?