

20.2

Hard-to-Find Subjects (in Orders and Directions, in Questions) • Practice 1

Subjects in Orders and Directions In sentences that give orders or directions, the subject is understood to be *you*.

| Orders or Directions | With Understood Words Added |
|---|--|
| <u>Return</u> your library books immediately. | [<u>You</u>] <u>return</u> your library books immediately. |
| David, <u>answer</u> the door. | David, [<u>you</u>] <u>answer</u> the door. |

Subjects in Questions In questions the subject often follows the verb. To find the subject in a question, mentally rephrase the question as a statement.

| Questions | Reworded as Statements |
|--|---|
| Is <u>this</u> your address? | <u>This</u> <u>is</u> your address. |
| <u>Can</u> <u>we</u> <u>eat</u> now? | <u>We</u> <u>can</u> <u>eat</u> now. |
| Where <u>are</u> <u>you</u> <u>going</u> ? | <u>You</u> <u>are</u> <u>going</u> where. |

Exercise 1 **Finding the Subject in Orders or Directions.** Write the subject of each sentence in the blank at the right. Put a caret (^) where the subject belongs in the sentence.

EXAMPLE: André, ^ please clear the table. you

1. A block past the First Bank, turn left. _____
2. Whatever the difficulties, do your best. _____
3. Please take out the trash. _____
4. Alison, don't forget your lunch. _____
5. Blacken in the grid with a soft pencil. _____
6. Derek, please give your mother a message. _____
7. Meet me at the library after school. _____
8. Mandy, please let me copy that recipe. _____
9. Before starting out, buckle your safety belt. _____
10. Help yourself, everyone. _____

Exercise 2 **Finding the Subject in Questions.** Underline the simple subject in each question below.

EXAMPLE: How much do these shoes cost?

1. Do you know the combination to this lock?
2. Have your parents given their permission for the class trip?
3. How is that casserole prepared?
4. What color did you paint the kitchen walls?
5. Did anyone bring directions to the farm?
6. Where are the Claytons going for the weekend?
7. Didn't Shakespeare write sonnets as well as plays?
8. Who brought the sandwiches?
9. Whom did Sue invite on the picnic?
10. Whose story should we believe?

20.2 Hard-to-Find Subjects (in Orders and Directions, in Questions) • Practice 2

Exercise 1 Finding Subjects in Orders or Directions. Rewrite each sentence, inserting the understood subject in brackets.

EXAMPLE: During your break, take the dog out.

During your break, [you] take the dog out.

1. After school, come straight home.

2. Joanne, give me a quarter.

3. Now tell me what happened.

4. When using that machine, always wear safety goggles.

5. Sue, order me a milkshake, please.

6. After class, meet me at the library.

7. Pete, during takeoff, keep your seatbelt fastened.

8. Before leaving, pack a good lunch.

9. Dad, turn left at the end of the exit ramp.

10. When filling out that form, use ink.

Exercise 2 Finding Subjects in Questions. Underline the subject of each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Where did they spend their last winter vacation?

1. Have you seen the new horror movie?
2. When will Sally be home?
3. Who baked this cake?
4. About what will Andy write?
5. Are the final reports complete?
6. Is the story ready for publication?
7. Why hasn't Judy answered my note?
8. What did Jack wear to the game?
9. Has Joyce finished her term paper yet?
10. Which team won the championship?

20.2

Hard-to-Find Subjects (in Sentences Beginning with *There* or *Here*, in Sentences Inverted for Emphasis)

• Practice 1

Subjects in Sentences Beginning with *There* or *Here* The subject of a sentence is never *there* or *here*. Like inverted questions, such sentences can usually be rephrased as statements to find the subject.

| Sentences Beginning with <i>There</i> or <i>Here</i> | Reworded with Subjects First |
|--|--|
| There <u>goes</u> my best <u>friend</u> . | My best <u>friend</u> <u>goes</u> there. |
| Here <u>is</u> your tennis <u>racquet</u> . | Your tennis <u>racquet</u> <u>is</u> here. |

Subjects in Sentences Inverted for Emphasis In some sentences the subject is placed after the verb in order to receive greater emphasis. Such sentences can be mentally rephrased in normal subject-verb order to find the subject.

| Inverted Word Order | Rephrased in Subject-Verb Order |
|--|---|
| After the elephants came the <i>clowns</i> . | The <i>clowns</i> came after the elephants. |
| Beyond the river lay the <i>cliffs</i> . | The <i>cliffs</i> lay beyond the river. |

Exercise 1 Finding the Subject in Sentences Beginning with *There* or *Here*. Underline the subject in each sentence below.

EXAMPLE: Here comes the circus parade.

1. There is the new mayor.
2. Here are the proofs from the photographer.
3. There has seldom been a more beautiful sunset.
4. There is little undeveloped land in this part of town.
5. Here comes the custodian with the keys.
6. There must be a better restaurant in town than this one.
7. Here is the newest book by my favorite author.
8. There is no doubt about the outcome.
9. There went our last chance at the championship.
10. Here comes the President's helicopter.

Exercise 2 Finding the Subject in Inverted Sentences. Underline the subject in each sentence below.

EXAMPLE: Over the mantel hangs a beautiful landscape.

1. Right before our eyes appeared a white rabbit.
2. Between the creek and the dirt road stretches a lush meadow.
3. Throughout the town flew rumors about the bank manager.
4. Outside my bedroom window blooms a beautiful lilac bush.
5. On the front page appeared a story about the student of the year.
6. Into the stadium filed the throng of eager fans.
7. Through these halls have passed generations of dedicated lawmakers.
8. In the center of the harbor stands the Statue of Liberty.
9. From every window streamed tons of ticker tape and confetti.
10. Along the cobblestone streets stood restored colonial houses.

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Hard-to-Find Subjects (in Sentences Beginning with *There* or *Here*, in Sentences Inverted for Emphasis)

• Practice 2

Exercise 1 Finding Subjects in Sentences Beginning with *There* or *Here*. Underline the subject of each sentence.

EXAMPLE: Here she is.

1. There are your keys on the table.
2. Here comes the bus.
3. There was no excuse for his behavior.
4. There goes the kite into the tree.
5. Here is your pizza with mushrooms and extra cheese.
6. There is the rest of the strawberry pie.
7. There are last week's papers.
8. Here are the poppy-seed rolls from the bakery.
9. There went my sister in her new car.
10. There were only three seeds left in the birdfeeder.

Exercise 2 Finding Subjects in Inverted Sentences. Underline the subject of each sentence.

EXAMPLE: In her hand was the missing letter.

1. After the rain came a beautiful rainbow.
2. All about us rang the bells of the village's three churches.
3. To the south rose the snow-covered peaks of the lofty mountains.
4. Ahead of the couple ran four noisy children.
5. All around them lay the scattered leaves.
6. With their safe arrival came a feeling of great happiness and relief.
7. Among the people in the crowd were our neighbors.
8. Beside the fire sat an old man.
9. On a raft floating down the river were their treasured possessions.
10. From the distance came the sound of thunder.

Writing Application Writing Sentences with Hard-to-Find Subjects. Write four sentences of your own. The first sentence should give an order; the second should ask a question; the third should be an inverted sentence that begins with *there* or *here*; and the fourth sentence should be inverted for emphasis.

EXAMPLE: Lisa, leave right away.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____
