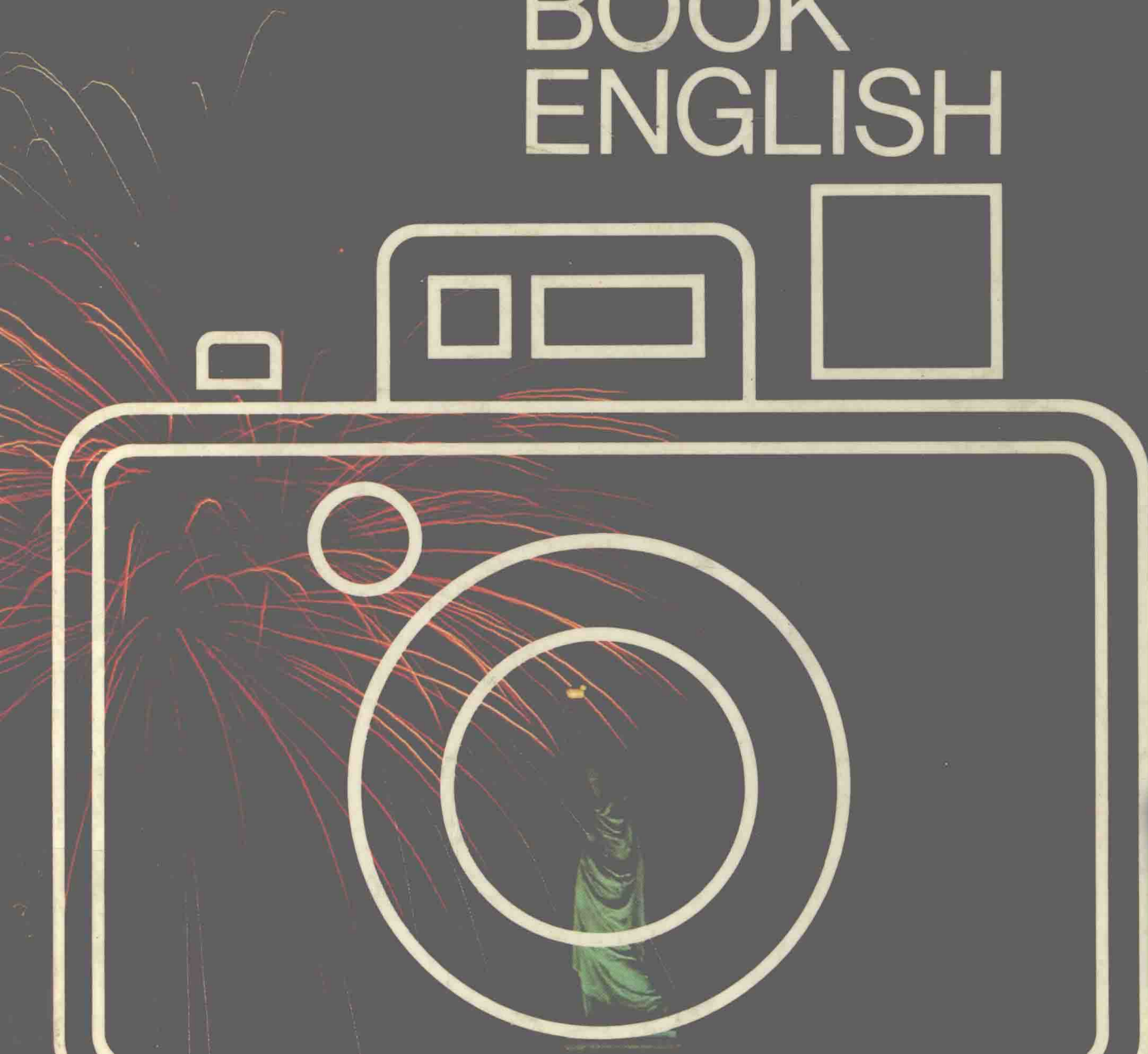


AMERICAN BOOK ENGLISH



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For Acknowledgments and Credits, see page 390

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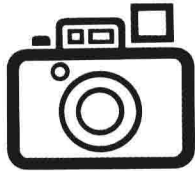
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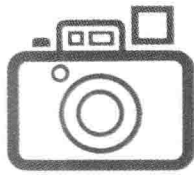
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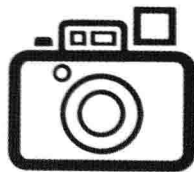


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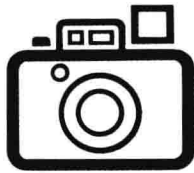


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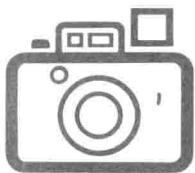


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AMERICAN BOOK ENGLISH

American Book Company





The Sentence

GRAMMAR

The Subject and the
Predicate
The Direct Object
The Predicate Noun
The Predicate Adjective
Adjectives and Adverbs
Prepositional Phrases
Conjunctions

COMPOSITION

Sentence Building

USAGE

Using Standard Forms

VOCABULARY

Exact Words

In this unit, you will explore the two main parts of the sentence. You will see how different kinds of words are used in the subject and the predicate. Then you will use what you've learned to build better sentences.

1

Actors and Action

In the pictures on pages 2–3, the actors are taking their places on a movie set. An actor can be a soldier, a miner, a doctor, or anything else a writer decides he or she should be. The English language has a name, or noun, for each part an actor plays.

Lights! Camera! Action!

The director gives the cue and the actors move. They smile, or cry, or leap, or ride off into the sunset. The English language has a verb for every action an actor takes.

Now read this sentence about the picture on the opposite page.

The detective found a clue.

What is the noun that names the actor? What is the verb that tells what the action is?

The noun that tells what the sentence is about belongs to the part of the sentence called the *subject*. The verb belongs to the part of the sentence called the *predicate*.

A sentence is made up of two main parts: a subject and a predicate.

Now read this:

The detective with the magnifying glass.

Is this group of words a sentence? Which part is missing—the subject or the predicate? Is the sentence complete or incomplete?

Is this group of words a sentence?

Examined the clue.

Which part is missing—the subject or the predicate? Is the sentence complete or incomplete?

A complete sentence must have both a subject and a predicate.





Exercise A

Read the following. Tell whether they are complete or incomplete sentences. Tell which part is missing in the incomplete sentences.

1. The dog with the shoe in its mouth.
2. The dancer turned gracefully on his toes.
3. The American swim team at the Olympics.
4. Watched the magician's tricks.
5. The temperature dropped below zero.



Exercise B

Write the missing part for each incomplete sentence in Exercise A.



2

The Subject and the Predicate

Read the sentences below. Notice how they seem to break into actor-action parts.

1. Jerry/heard weird sounds.
2. Curious crowds/ran into the streets.

Look at the sentences carefully. Everything to the left of the slash mark tells whom or what the sentence is about. What do you call this part of the sentence?

The subject tells whom or what the sentence is about.

Now look at the sentences again. Everything to the right of the slash mark tells something about the subject. What do you call this part of a sentence?

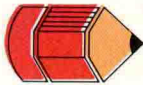
The predicate tells something about the subject.



Exercise A

Write the following sentences. Put a slash mark between the subject and the predicate.

1. The sharp cry frightened the sheep.
2. The clown walked on his hands.
3. Ben Franklin liked to fly kites.
4. The sleepy child clutched the soft teddy bear.



Exercise B

Read the following incomplete sentences. Write complete sentences by making up the missing subject or predicate. Remember to use capital letters and periods.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. painted the walls of the room | 4. a coin collection |
| 2. the winner | 5. visited the zoo |
| 3. caught a fish four feet long | 6. the famous actor |