

A Writing Center Helpful Handout

SENTENCES & VERBS

An English subject divides into two parts

complete subject + complete predicate

e.g. The plate + is clean.

▷ The **SUBJECT** (the plate) is what the sentence is about and answers the questions Who? or What?

▷ The **PREDICATE** (is clean) says something about the subject and includes the verb(is).

▷ A **VERB** is a word that expresses action or state of being and often ends in *-s* or *-ed*.

Chandra **writes** clearly .
Abdullah **runs** quickly.
Mona **typed** with accuracy.

▷ A **COMPOUND VERB** is composed of more than one verbs

Chandra **writes** and **speaks** clearly.
Abdullah **runs** and **scores** with great speed.
Mona **typed** and **copied** the paper.

▷ An **AUXILIARY** is a verb that has more than one word

The film **had started** by then.
She **will be arriving** soon.
Mara **should go** now.

▷ A **PHRASAL VERB** is a verb combined with a particle (at, in, out, up...)

Nothing **turned out** the way she expected.
She **looked up** the word in the dictionary.
He **turned off** the coffee pot, and left the room.