

Subjects and verbs in sentences

In English Sentences have a **subject** and a **verb**. The subject is the person or thing doing something or being described. The verb is an action word like **run** or **sing**, or a word like **am**, **is**, or **are** that links the subject to a description.

Mrs. Pérez **is** my Spanish teacher.

She **is** from Florida.

We **like** her very much.

English sentences always have a subject. The subject can be a **noun** or a **pronoun**. A noun refers to a person, a thing, or a place. A noun can be replaced with a pronoun, which is a word that stands for the noun. Words such as **I**, **you**, **he**, **she**, **it**, **we**, and **they** are all pronouns.

Juan is a classmate. **He** is my best friend. (*He* stands for *Juan*.)

A Circle the conjugated verb and underline the subject in each sentence.

Susan Hi, I(am) Susan.

Pablo Hello, my name is Pablo. Where are you from?

Susan I am from the United States. Are you from Madrid?

Pablo Yes, I go to the Colegio Miguel de Cervantes. Where do you study?

Susan I study at Lincoln High School. I like Spanish a lot.

Pablo Great! Who is your teacher?

Susan Miss Garza is my teacher. She is very friendly and intelligent. Can I practice my Spanish with you by email?

Pablo Sure, I want to have an American pen pal.

In Spanish Sentences also have a **subject** and a **verb**. A subject can be a noun or a pronoun. Some pronouns you've seen are **él**, **ella**, **tú**, and **usted**. Unlike in English, in Spanish the subject noun or subject pronoun can be left out of a sentence if everyone knows who or what you're talking about. When this is the case, the verb, such as **es**, **estoy**, or **estás**, is enough!

La señora Pérez es mi profesora. **Ella es** de Madrid.

Antonio es mi amigo. **Es** de España.

¿Cómo **estás**?

Estoy bien, gracias.

SUBJECTS AND VERBS IN SENTENCES

B Circle the conjugated verbs and underline their subjects in this conversation.

- Miguel Hola, yo soy Miguel.
- Lola Yo soy Lola. ¿Qué tal?
- Miguel Muy bien. ¿Quién es él?
- Lola Mi amigo se llama Santiago. Él es un compañero de clase. Él es de Barcelona. ¿Y quién es la señora?
- Miguel La señora es la profesora Montero. Ella es mi profesora de ciencias.
- Lola Muy bien. Hasta luego.
- Miguel Adiós.

C Some subjects have been left out of the following conversation because they aren't needed. Underline all the verbs and then circle those verbs whose subject has been left out.

- Arturo ¡Buenos días! Soy Arturo.
- Yolanda Encantada, Arturo. Yo soy Yolanda. Y éste es mi amigo José. Es un compañero de clase.
- Arturo Mucho gusto, José. ¿De dónde eres?
- Yolanda Soy de Cuba. ¿De dónde eres tú?
- Arturo Yo soy de Panamá. ¿Y quién es la muchacha?
- Yolanda Ella es mi mejor amiga, Leticia. Es de la República Dominicana. Ah, y éste es el señor Ruiz. Es mi profesor de ciencias.
- Arturo Encantado, profesor.
- Señor Ruiz Igualmente.

D Read the following sentences in English and Spanish. What would happen if you left out the subject in English? Why do you think you can often leave out the subject pronoun in Spanish?

- Soy de Barcelona.** *I am from Barcelona.*
- Es mi mejor amiga.** *She is my best friend.*
- Es un compañero de clase.** *He is a classmate.*
