

Changing a Predicate: Single Verb to a Compound Verb

Every sentence must have at least one verb.

Example 1: Emily called her mother.

In some sentences one subject can have two verbs which is called a compound verb.

Example 2: Emily called and talked to her mother.

In Example 2 *called* and *talked* are both the verbs in the sentence. Notice how they are joined with the conjunction *and*.

Below are pairs of sentences. Combine them into one simple sentence by changing the two verbs into one compound verb. Remember: make each sentence a simple sentence.

1. The dog barked at the cat. It growled too.
2. Agnes sang on the stage. She danced on stage.
3. Micah climbed a tree. He fell out of it.
4. The house slid down the cliff. It crashed into the ocean.
5. While the witness testified, the lawyer listened closely. The lawyer also took notes.
6. The baseball player caught the ball. She threw it to second base.
7. The tornado dipped down from the sky. It came closer to the town.
8. The baker bakes loaves of bread. He sells them in his shop.

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Answers: Actual student's answers may vary, but there should be only one subject in each sentence. Example of correct answers:

1. The dog barked at the cat. It growled too.

The dog barked and growled at the cat.

2. Agnes sang on the stage. She danced on stage.

Agnes sang and danced on the stage.

3. Micah climbed a tree. He fell out of it.

Micah climbed a tree and fell out of it.

4. The house slid down the cliff. It crashed into the ocean.

The house slid down the cliff and crashed into the ocean.

5. While the witness testified, the lawyer listened closely. The lawyer also took notes.

While the witness testified, the lawyer listened closely and also took notes.

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The baseball player caught the ball and threw it to second base.

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