rule 1: sublist(X,Y) :- append(_,X,L), append(L,_,Y)
rule 2: append([ ], Y, Y).
rule 3: append([H | T], Y, [H | L]) :- append(T,Y,L).

sublist([1],[1,2])

Rule 1

append(A,[1],L)

Rule 2, A = [ ], L =[1]

append([ ],[1],[1])

Fact

append(L,R,[1,2])

Rewrite using L = [1]

append([1],R,[1,2])

Rule 3

append([ ],R,[2])

Rule 2, R = [2]

append([ ],[2],[2])

Fact