

This sentence has a subject *boy* and has part of a verb *going*; to be correct, some form of the verb *be* is needed to make the sentence complete. Answers (A) and (B) are incorrect because the sentence already has a subject *boy* and does not need the extra subject *he*. Answer (C) is incorrect because *relaxing* is an extra verb part that is unnecessary because of *going*. Answer (D) is the best answer; *will be* together with *going* is a complete verb.

The following chart outlines what you should remember about subjects and verbs:

SUBJECTS AND VERBS
A sentence in English must have at least one <i>subject</i> and one <i>verb</i> .

EXERCISE 1: Underline the subjects once and the verbs twice in each of the following sentences. Then indicate if the sentences are correct (C) or incorrect (I).

- I

1.

Last week went fishing for trout at the nearby mountain lake.
- C

2.

A schedule of the day's events can be obtained at the front desk.
3.

A job on the day shift or the night shift at the plant available.
4.

The new computer program has provides a variety of helpful applications.
5.

The box can be opened only with a special screwdriver.
6.

The assigned text for history class it contains more than twenty chapters.
7.

The papers in the wastebasket should be emptied into the trash can outside.
8.

Departure before dawn on a boat in the middle of the harbor.
9.

Yesterday found an interesting article on pollution.
10.

The new machine is processes 50 percent more than the previous machine.

SKILL 2: BE CAREFUL OF OBJECTS OF PREPOSITIONS

An object of a preposition is a noun, pronoun, gerund or noun clause that comes after a preposition, such as *in*, *at*, *of*, *to*, *by*, *behind*, *on*, and so on, to form a prepositional phrase.

(After his *exams*) Tom will take a trip (by *boat*).

This sentence contains two objects of prepositions. *Exams* is the object of the preposition *after*, and *boat* is the object of the preposition *by*.

An object of a preposition can cause confusion in structure questions on the TOEFL test because it can be mistaken for the subject of a sentence.