Compound Subjects & Verbs
Reviewing Learning Objectives

- Concept Review:
  - What is a Subject?
  - What is a Verb?
  - What is a Clause?
  - What is a Phrase?
New Learning Objectives

- What is a Compound Subject?
- What is a Compound Verb?
- What is Subject-Verb Agreement?
# A Quick Review...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>A <strong>Subject</strong> is…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The noun that does the action of the verb. (The noun that pairs with the verb.)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Verb</th>
<th>A <strong>Verb</strong> is…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The word(s) that tell(s) what the subject does or how the subject exists.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Examples:**

- Babies *cry.*
- The **sky** *is* blue.
## A Quick Review...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>A Clause</strong> is…</th>
<th><strong>A Phrase</strong> is…</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A group of words that include both a <strong>Subject</strong> and a <strong>Verb</strong>.</td>
<td>A group of words that lack a <strong>Subject</strong>-<strong>Verb</strong> combination.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Examples:

**A Clause**
- The **dog** **was** in the way.
- **John** **was invited** to the party.

**A Phrase**
- In the way (*no Subject*)
- To the party (*no Verb*)
- Driving to the mall (*the mall isn’t doing the driving*)
Discovering Subjects...
Sentences with Compound Subjects

When two nouns combine with the same verb, the subject is *compound*.

*Example:*

Mom and Dad *left* for work early.

Compound Subject: **Mom & Dad**

Verb: **left**
Sentences with Compound Subjects

A Compound Subject is a two-part subject connected by:

And
Or
Either…or
Neither… nor
Not only… but [also]
Sentences with Compound Subjects

Examples of Compound Subject sentences:

*My friend and I* like to ski.

*Bill or Mike* will pick up the car.

*Neither Mom nor Dad* likes being late to church.
Compound Subjects

- A compound subject may look like two subjects, but the parts fuse together, thus forming only one subject.

- Peter and Paul met in Jerusalem. (One compound subject).

- Peter, James, and John went fishing in Galilee. (One compound subject).
Compound Subjects

- When a compound subject combines with a verb, it forms a single clause.
  - (After all, a compound subject is a *single* subject, remember!)

- EX:
  - Grace and Helen went to the fair (1 clause)
  - Craig and John hiked up Mount Kilimanjaro (1 clause).
A compound verb is much like a compound subject. A compound verb is formed when two verbs combine together with the same subject.

Ex:
- The dog leaped in the air and caught the frisbee.
- (Both “leaped” and “caught” are verbs describing what the subject “dog” did.)
Compound verb

- Like the compound subject, the compound verb counts as only one verb.
  - The parts of the compound verb have fused together to form a unified whole.

The kittens *wrestled* and *played*. (1 compound verb)

The wolves *chased* the antelope but *failed* to catch it.

(It seems odd, but “chased” and “failed” count as one compound verb because they join together to tell what the wolves did).
Compound Verb

- When a compound verb combines with a subject, it counts as a single clause.
  - After all, a compound verb counts as one verb, not two.

- The horse whinnied and shook his mane. (1 clause)

- The broker miscalculated and lost all his earnings for the year. (1 clause)
Wrinkle: Compound Subjects and Verbs

- A compound subject can also combine with a compound verb
  - James and his dog ran and tumbled down the hill.
  - My wife and I looked for the wedding band but couldn’t find it.
A clause containing a compound subject and a compound verb still counts as a single clause.

- Remember, a compound subject is a single subject, and a compound verb is a single verb. So you still have one subject joining up with one verb.

- My wife and I looked for the wedding band but couldn’t find it. (1 clause)

- Harold and James sledgehammered the brick wall and broke it to pieces. (1 clause)
When a new clause occurs

- A new clause occurs only when a new subject appears that has no connection to the verb of the previous subject.

- The **dog barked** and the **cat hissed**. (2 clauses)
  - Obviously, the cat does not bark. As such, we have a new subject that has no connection to the verb of the previous subject.

- The **engine died** and the **man pulled** his hair in exasperation. (2 clauses)
  - Again, the man obviously does not die – only the engine dies. As such, the second subject (man) has no connection to the verb of the first subject (died).