Lesson 6.2 (pp. 123–124)  

Simple Subjects and Predicates

**Exercise 1 Writing Subjects and Predicates**

Write the simple subject and simple predicate of each sentence. Label each.

**EXAMPLE**  Have you seen an armadillo?

**you** (simple subject), **Have seen** (simple predicate)

1. The animal’s most striking feature is its shell.

2. An armadillo’s bony shell covers its back.

3. Some armadillos can roll themselves into a ball.

4. Their diet includes insects, spiders, and little reptiles.

5. Do these mammals like hot weather?

**Hint**

In many questions, the subject comes after a helping verb and before the main verb.

**Exercise 2 Identifying Subjects and Predicates**

Underline the simple subject of each sentence below once and the simple predicate, or verb, twice. Remember to underline any helping verbs in a verb phrase.

1. Armadillos enjoy water. 2. The animals like the soft areas around streams and water holes. 3. Their sharp claws can dig more easily for food in moist, soft soils. 4. They also enjoy baths in muddy ponds. 5. Do these creatures swim? Surprisingly, the answer is yes. They can do a silly-looking paddle for short distances. However, swimming tires them quickly. 6. Luckily, armadillos can also gulp large amounts of air to inflate their stomachs and intestines. The extra air works like a built-in life preserver. 7. The animals stay afloat more easily this way. In addition, armadillos can walk across narrow streams, ponds, or water-filled ditches. 8. Some armadillos may hold their breath for five or six minutes! Did you know that?