

Name _____ Date _____ Period _____

**Parts of Sentences:
Complete and Simple Predicates**

The predicates you have been studying are called *complete predicates*. Each complete predicate contains a *simple predicate*, which is the main word in the predicate. The simple predicate is the *verb* of the sentence.

****The simple predicate, or verb, is the main word or group of words in the complete predicate.****

EXAMPLE The pilot broke the sound barrier.
 Complete predicate broke the sound barrier.
 Simple predicate (verb) broke

 Arkansas has the only diamond field in the United States.
 Complete predicate has the only diamond field in the United States.
 Simple predicate (verb) has

Look at the following sentences. The complete predicates are underlined, and the simple predicates (verbs) are in boldfaced type.

EXAMPLES The dinosaur is a prehistoric animal.
 The puppy **walked** across the sofa with muddy feet.

The simple predicate is always a verb. In this book, the simple predicate is usually referred to as the *verb*.

Identifying Complete Predicates and Verbs

Underline the complete predicate of each of the following sentences. Then circle the verb.

EXAMPLE Nobody knows the creator of our flag.

1. Historians are unsure about the history of the Stars and Stripes.
2. The Continental Congress approved a design for the flag.
3. The design included thirteen red stripes and thirteen white stripes.
4. The top inner quarter of the flag was a blue field with thirteen white stars.
5. The designer of the flag is unknown.
6. Congress said nothing about the placement of the stars.
7. George Washington wanted flags for the army.
8. The flags arrived after the Revolutionary War.
9. According to legend, Betsy Ross made the first flag.
10. Historians doubt the Betsy Ross story.