

Are you a musical learner? Listen to the “Subjects & Predicates” jingle in the portal.

Independent Clauses

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What do you like to think about? When you think of it, what does your mind say? Does it say one word or a few? I like to think about food. Do you enjoy food? Well when I think about food in my mind, I don't just think of the word food, I think of many things about it. I think of different types of food, how food tastes, what I want to eat for dinner, and sometimes my mind begins wondering about foods I have never tasted before. My mind, however, hardly thinks of one word and stops. If our minds worked like that, this is what would happen when you think:

“Food”

“Good”

“Taste.”

Well, those words do not make any sense, if they stand alone, but when you put them together and organize them, they create a sentence. A sentence is a complete thought. It is also referred to as an **independent clause**.

“Food tastes good.”

When your thought is complete, it has both a subject and a verb. A subject is the noun of focus, meaning whatever thing, person, idea, place or emotion you are thinking about. Let’s look at the picture below here:



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What thoughts came up? Did you only think: “food” and that’s it, or did you think, “That food looks good?” Maybe you thought, “I’m going to go and buy me some food.” You may not eat meat, so instead, you may have thought, “The food in this picture looks unhealthy.”

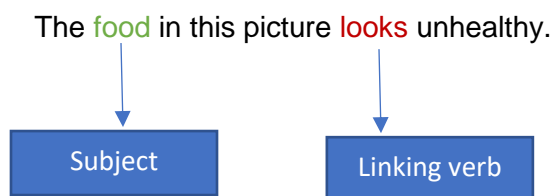
Either way, you did not think one word. You thought many words, and those words organized themselves to complete your thought. The noun of focus is the food.

Once you finished thinking the word, “food” something followed, and that is the **verb** or **predicate**. A verb is an action or being word. Action verbs are words like eating, walking, running, and throwing. Words that describe the state a noun is in, are called **linking verbs**. They are state of being. Words like **is, are, were, look, smell, feel, sound, taste, act, grow, and stay** are linking verbs. The **predicate** is everything that follows the subject and it contains the verb. See a list of linking verbs in the chart below.

Linking Verbs Chart

| Is | Has | May be |
|----------|----------|-----------|
| Are | Could be | Taste |
| Were | Can be | Grow |
| Was | Would be | Sound |
| Had been | Has been | Have been |
| Look | Smell | Feel |

Now, let's take a look at the sentences you thought about the image. Where is the verb in this thought/independent clause?



For others to read your written thoughts the way you thought them, you must mark each individual thought with some form punctuation. A period is only used when the thought is complete. A comma is used when you take a brief pause to breathe and then finish the thought.

An independent clause is a complete thought. It has a subject and a predicate.

Verbs are in green and subjects are red.

- 1) **He** **played**.
- 2) **Sally** **road** her bike to the store.
- 3) **Shawn** **is** happy.

The underlined is the predicate.

Further Insight



Question & Answer Online→ <https://www.onlinequizcreator.com/cfv-reading-what-do-you-think/quiz-447790>

Write it Out!

1. What is an independent clause?

- a. A verb.
 - b. A subject.
 - c. A complete thought.
 - d. Words put in order.
2. What is a linking verb? Provide three examples.

3. What is a predicate? _____