

The Complete Subject

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The **complete subject** is the word or group of words that tells what the sentence is about. It tells the person, the place, or the thing about which something is said.

In the sentences below draw a line under the complete subjects.

Example: The ocean is the home of many animals.

Three Sea Animals

1. The largest animal on earth lives in the ocean.
2. Most whales live in groups, or schools.
3. These animals have a keen sense of hearing.
4. A thick layer of fat keeps whales warm in cold water.
5. A whale holds its breath under water.
6. The air in its lungs becomes hot and full of moisture.
7. The whale blows out its breath above the surface of the water.
8. The marine turtle is a unique inhabitant of the sea.
9. A turtle's hard upper shell is constructed of about 50 bones.
10. Turtles live much longer than most other animals.
11. An adult turtle's average age is 30 to 50 years.
12. These reptiles eat both plant and animal matter.
13. Some turtles hibernate during the coldest periods of the year.
14. The turtle's appearance has remained the same for about 200 million years.
15. The octopus's snakelike arms have suction cups on their bottom sides.
16. These allow the octopus to grab and hold anything nearby.
17. These unusual animals catch fish and crabs for food.
18. They usually try to escape from anything larger than small sea animals.
19. A swift stream of water is spurted out of the octopus's body.
20. The force of the water pushes the animal rapidly backward.
21. The octopus's color may be changed to match its surroundings.
22. Its coloring may turn from brown to red, blue, yellow, or green.
23. A cloud of black ink can be thrown out by the frightened animal.
24. A cornered octopus may use its long arms to entangle the intruding enemy.

Other Things to Do: Write two declarative, two exclamatory, and two interrogative sentences about another unusual animal.

