

1

Simple Sentences



ARE YOU OFTEN ONLINE?

CONNECTING TO THE THEME

Are you often online? Read the statements and decide how true they are for you.

- A** true for me **B** sometimes true for me **C** not true for me
- I check my e-mail several times a day.
- My friends and I talk to each other every day on social networking sites.
- I prefer to e-mail my instructors and check my grades online.
- My friends and I do research for school and schedule our classes online.

Mostly As: you are addicted to the Internet and need to meet up with friends offline more often.
Mostly Bs: you might want to be careful about how much time you spend online.
Mostly Cs: you may have a healthy relationship with the Internet, but don't miss out on its advantages.

A. Skill Presentation

A **sentence** is a group of words that makes a complete idea. Every sentence needs a **subject** and a **verb**.

There are four types of simple sentences (the **S** stands for *subject*, and the **V** stands for *verb*):

- 1 An SV sentence has one subject and one verb. **SV = 1 subject + 1 verb**
Marina likes social networking sites.
(The subject is *Marina*. The verb is *likes*.)
- 2 An SSV sentence has two subjects and one verb. **SSV = 2 subjects + 1 verb**
David and Amy like online shopping.
(The two subjects are *David* and *Amy*. The verb is *like*.)
- 3 An SVV sentence has one subject and two verbs. **SVV = 1 subject + 2 verbs**
Mike usually checks the weather and **sends** e-mails every morning.
(The subject is *Mike*. The two verbs are *checks* and *sends*.)
- 4 An SSVV sentence has two subjects and two verbs. **SSVV = 2 subjects + 2 verbs**
Laura and Pedro shopped for books and **searched** for classes online.
(The two subjects are *Laura* and *Pedro*. The two verbs are *shopped* and *searched*.)



B. Over to You

1 How many subjects and how many verbs are there in each sentence? Circle the correct type of simple sentence.

- 1 Katarina and Mary found a new site about relationships.
SV SSV SVV SSVV
- 2 Pedro bought a book online and wrote about it on his blog.
SV SSV SVV SSVV

2 Read each sentence in the chart. Write the subjects and verbs in the correct column.

	SUBJECT(S)	VERB(S)
1. A recent study looked at the most popular websites for young people.		
2. Ten-year-old children usually watch TV shows and play online games.		
3. Preteens and teens like social networking sites.		
4. Clara and Nubia chat online and send messages to their friends.		
5. Many Americans spend a lot of time on e-mail.		
6. I looked at your new marketing site last night and posted a comment.		
7. My study group and I used a number of online resources for our research project.		
8. You can reconnect with old school friends on this website.		
9. I found an old friend online last night and sent her a message.		
10. My dad and I read the same blog and post comments every Saturday.		



CHECK!

The four types of simple sentences are:

- 1 _____ = 1 subject + 1 verb
- 2 _____ = 2 subjects + 1 verb
- 3 _____ = 1 subject + 2 verbs
- 4 _____ = 2 subjects + 2 verbs

C. Practice

1 Read the e-mail and decide if the words in bold are subjects or verbs. Write S for Subject and V for Verb.

To:

Subject:

From:

Hi Cathy,

I ¹**went** to a technology conference yesterday. I ²**saw** a lot of presentations and ³**met** some nice people. ⁴**Maria and Tim** ⁵**were** there, too. ⁶**Dr. Langman** gave an interesting presentation. She and I ⁷**disagree** about a few things. ⁸**She** ⁹**talked** about the Internet's negative effect on everyday life. I don't think the Internet is that bad. People still ¹⁰**interact** with each other. Dr. Langman recommends turning off technology in order to reconnect with friends. Let's talk soon.

Take care,
Marisela

- 1 ____

2 ____
- 3 ____

4 ____
- 5 ____

6 ____
- 7 ____

8 ____
- 9 ____

10 ____

2 Read each sentence and decide what type of simple sentence it is. Write SV, SSV, SVV, or SSVV.

- ___ 1

The average American spends 32.7 hours online every week.
- ___ 2

Technology and Sociology are my two classes this semester.
- ___ 3

Sandra and her mother shopped online.
- ___ 4

Most people talk to friends and share photos online.
- ___ 5

Maria and Juan usually study in the library and eat lunch in the park.
- ___ 6

The Internet affects our lives.
- ___ 7

Many teenagers meet friends at school and interact with them online.
- ___ 8

Many adults enjoy social networking sites.
- ___ 9

John and his wife pay their bills and book their vacations on the Internet.
- ___ 10

Alejandra goes to a tutoring session and practices the piano after school.



D. Skill Quiz

Check (✓) the correct answer for each item.

1 A sentence is a group of words that makes

- ☐ a. a person.
- ☐ b. an example.
- ☐ c. a complete idea.
- ☐ d. an action.

2 A subject is often

- ☐ a. a noun.
- ☐ b. a preposition.
- ☐ c. an adjective.
- ☐ d. an adverb.

3 Which word is a verb?

- ☐ a. Mr. Brown
- ☐ b. online
- ☐ c. sociologist
- ☐ d. meet

4 *My sister and I are friends on a social networking site.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

5 *Carol and Tom usually interact online and spend time together offline.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

6 *Teenagers interact with their friends on social networking sites.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

7 *Juliet searched for health information and took it to her doctor.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

8 *Music blogs and restaurant review sites are my two favorite types of websites.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

9 *Betty and Alex stayed home and spent time online.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

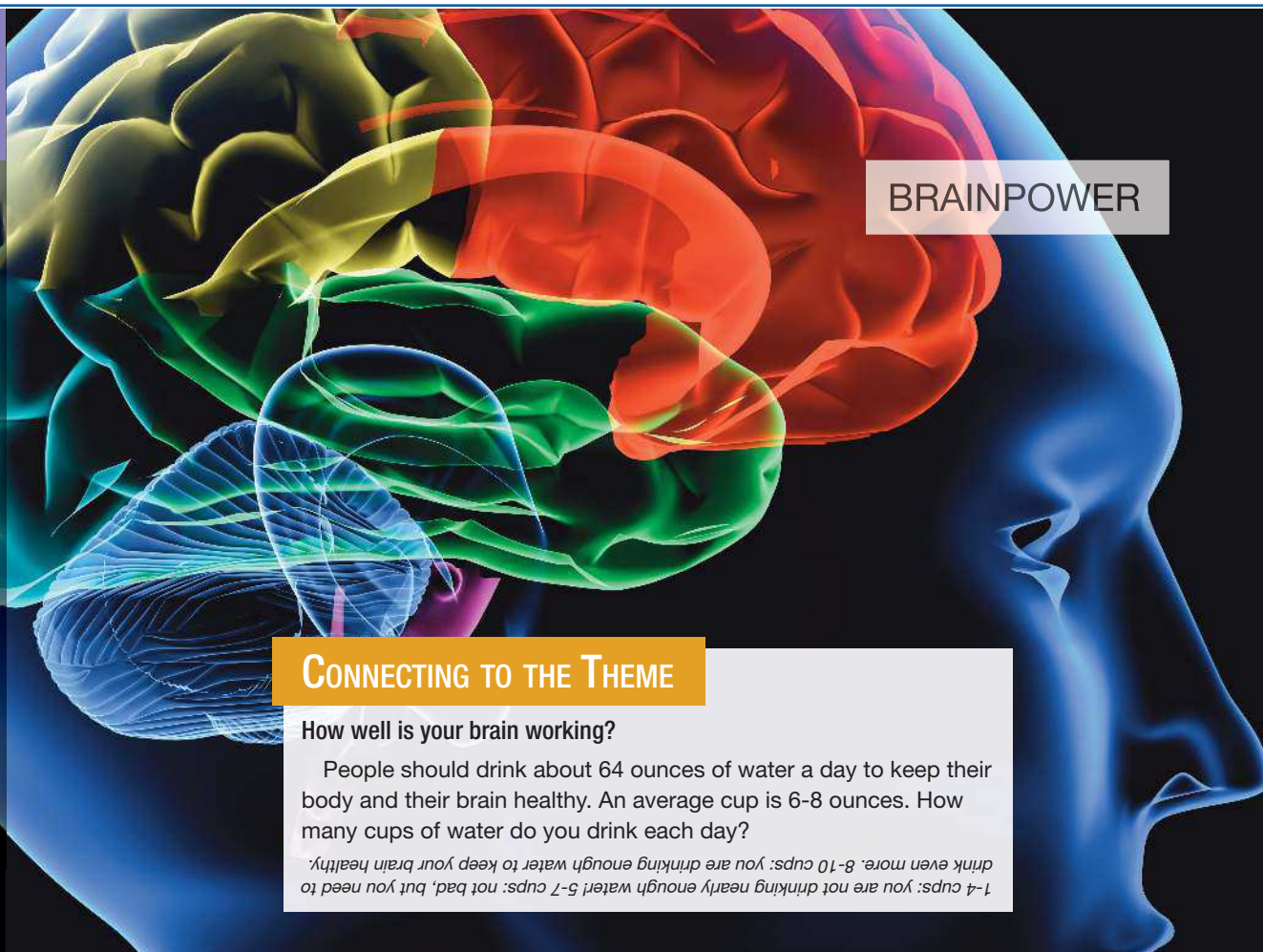
10 *Many ten-year-olds enjoy video games.*

What type of sentence is this?

- ☐ a. SV
- ☐ b. SSV
- ☐ c. SVV
- ☐ d. SSVV

2

What Is a Paragraph?



BRAINPOWER

CONNECTING TO THE THEME

How well is your brain working?

People should drink about 64 ounces of water a day to keep their body and their brain healthy. An average cup is 6-8 ounces. How many cups of water do you drink each day?

1-4 cups: you are not drinking nearly enough water! 5-7 cups: not bad, but you need to drink even more. 8-10 cups: you are drinking enough water to keep your brain healthy.

A. Skill Presentation

A **paragraph** has several sentences about one topic. The first sentence in a paragraph states the main idea. The other sentences support that idea and give more information.

Paragraph

- **Main idea**
- **Supporting sentences**
- **Concluding sentence**

Read this paragraph. The topic is the importance of water for your brain.

^MYour brain needs a lot of water to work properly. ^SIf you don't drink enough water, your body takes it from your brain. ^SThis can cause a headache. ^CDrink plenty of water to help your brain and avoid a headache.

Always use correct paragraph formatting.

- Indent the first sentence of each paragraph. To indent means to add space before the first word. Only indent the first line of a paragraph.
- Do not start each new sentence on a new line. Sentences continue on the same line, one after the other. Only start a new line when you start a new paragraph.
- After each sentence, leave a space between the period and the first word of the next sentence. If you are using a computer, type one or two spaces after the period. Some people type one space; some people type two spaces.



B. Over to You

1 Check (✓) the paragraph with the correct formatting.

- ☐ 1 Scientists study the brain to understand why some things make us happy.They can test us to see how our brains respond to happy situations.
They can also see that some people’s brains do not respond to happy situations.They hope that this will help them understand why some people are often unhappy.
- ☐ 2 Scientists study the brain to understand why some things make us happy. They can test us to see how our brains respond to happy situations. They can also see that some people’s brains do not respond to happy situations. They hope that this will help them understand why some people are often unhappy.

2 Match each sentence (1–6) with a sentence (a–h) from the same paragraph.

- ___ 1 What we eat has an effect on brain health.

___ 2 There are activities that harm our brains.

___ 3 When you have an exam, it is a good idea to prepare your brain.

___ 4 Some experts believe that stress makes the brain weaker.

___ 5 Sometimes we remember things clearly, but other times we cannot remember things well at all.

___ 6 You can improve your brain power in several ways.

___ 7 Someone with a low IQ score can still have a successful career.

___ 8 It is important to protect your brain from injury.
- a They think that people who worry less may have stronger brains.

b Scientists are not sure why our memories are not always sharp.

c Good relationships are often more important for success at work than brain power.

d Blueberries, for example, have chemicals that help the brain.

e Wearing a bike helmet helps protect your head.

f Smoking has a negative effect on brain health.

g One way to prepare is to get enough sleep the night before the exam.

h One way is to use your computer mouse with the hand you wouldn’t normally use.



CHECK!

The key points to remember about a paragraph are:

- A paragraph has several sentences about _____ topic.
- When you write, _____ the first line of each paragraph.
- Only start a new _____ when you start a new paragraph.
- Leave a _____ between the period and the new sentence.

C. Practice

1 Check (✓) the paragraph in each pair that has the correct formatting.

- 1 ☐ A In the past, people believed that a person with a low IQ could not be successful. It's true that many people with high IQs are very successful in life. It's also true that many people with lower IQ scores have had very successful lives. Scientists continue to research whether IQ and success are connected.
- ☐ B In the past, people believed that a person with a low IQ could not be successful. It's true that many people with high IQs are very successful in life. It's also true that many people with lower IQ scores have had very successful lives. Scientists continue to research whether IQ and success are connected.
- 2 ☐ A What you eat affects your mental ability. We know that fish, nuts, berries, and whole grains are good for the body. Fatty fish and nuts contain chemicals that help the brain. Blueberries and whole grains are superfoods for the body and brain, too. Foods that are healthy for your body are also good for your brain.
- ☐ B What you eat affects your mental ability.
We know that fish, nuts, berries, and whole grains are good for the body.
Fatty fish and nuts contain chemicals that help the brain. Blueberries and whole grains are superfoods for the body and brain, too.
Foods that are healthy for your body are also good for your brain.

2 Read each paragraph. Check (✓) the two sentences that describe what is wrong.

- 1 Students should not stay up all night studying for tests.
First, it is difficult to get a good job if you do not go to school.
It is also hard to remember information before the exam.
Next, studying all night can make students feel sick and tired.
For these reasons, a healthy diet is good for physical health.
- ☐ a. The sentences are not all about the same topic.
☐ b. The first line is not indented.
☐ c. Each sentence is on a new line.
☐ d. There are no spaces between sentences.
- 2 Many people's brains become less sharp as they age. Older people are sharper in the morning. Younger people, on the other hand, think more quickly in the late afternoon. The afternoon can also be a good time to take a nap.
- ☐ a. The sentences are not all about the same topic.
☐ b. The first line is not indented.
☐ c. Each sentence is on a new line.
☐ d. There are no spaces between sentences.



D. Skill Quiz

Check (✓) the correct answer for each item.

- 1 A paragraph always has
 - ☐ a. interesting information.
 - ☐ b. sentences about the same topic.
 - ☐ c. several main ideas.
- 2 Always indent the ____ line in a paragraph.
 - ☐ a. first
 - ☐ b. second
 - ☐ c. last
- 3 Leave ____ spaces between a period and a new sentence.
 - ☐ a. zero
 - ☐ b. one or two
 - ☐ c. about five
- 4 Choose the sentence that comes from the same paragraph as this main idea: *Some scientists think that worrying too much makes the brain weaker.*
 - ☐ a. It is probably good to avoid stress if you want a strong brain.
 - ☐ b. Many young people can think more quickly in the afternoon.
 - ☐ c. Some successful people have high IQ scores.
- 5 Choose the sentence that comes from the same paragraph as this main idea: *Researchers say that mental exercise helps your brain power.*
 - ☐ a. It is possible to feel happy and sad at the same time.
 - ☐ b. There are many foods that improve brain health.
 - ☐ c. Memory games and puzzles can help.
- 6 Choose the sentence that comes from the same paragraph as this main idea: *The brain causes people to feel emotions.*
 - ☐ a. Staying up late does not help students do better on tests.
 - ☐ b. The brain controls happiness and sadness.
 - ☐ c. Not everyone thinks IQ scores are important for success.
- 7 *Students should not stay up all night studying for tests. First, it is difficult to get a good job if you do not go to school. It is also hard to remember information before the exam. Next, studying all night can make students feel sick and tired. For these reasons, a healthy diet is good for physical health.*
 What is wrong with this paragraph?
 - ☐ a. The first line is not indented.
 - ☐ b. Not all sentences are from the same paragraph.
 - ☐ c. The sentences are each on a new line.
- 8 *Happiness and sadness are connected to different parts of the brain. This is why people can feel both emotions at the same time. When a child gets married, for example, a parent might feel happy and sad at the same time. This information is helping doctors understand how to help people.*
 What is wrong with the formatting in this paragraph?
 - ☐ a. The first line is not indented.
 - ☐ b. There are no spaces after each sentence.
 - ☐ c. The sentences are each on a new line.