

8. In *the first* form of the sentence, "birds" is the subject, and "fly" is the predicate. In the fourth form, the subject is "some birds of prey, having secured their victim," and the predicate is "fly with it very swiftly to their nests." The first sentence is *simple*; the other sentences are *enlarged*.

*Subject.**Predicate.*

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|---|---|
| 1. Birds | fly. |
| 2. Some birds | fly swiftly. |
| 3. Some birds of prey | fly very swiftly. |
| Some birds of prey, having
secured their victim, | fly with it very swiftly to their
nests. |

In like manner, enlarge the following sentences till you make them as long as you can. Be careful to have only one subject and one predicate :

1. Boys study. 2. Rivers flow. 3. A horse ran.

9. The principal word in the subject of a sentence is a *name-word*, because it represents the thing named; the principal word in the predicate is a *statement-word*, because it represents the thing stated. Name-words are called *nouns*; *statement-words* are called *verbs*.

10. There are thousands of *nouns* in our language, and also thousands of *verbs*. When we take all the words in our language, we find that we can assort them into a few great classes. We shall see that all English words may be grouped into *eight* classes, and these different sorts of words are called in grammar *parts of speech*. Now, nouns and verbs are the two principal parts of speech, because with a noun and a verb we can make a sentence.