

avail, it is the precursor of repentance, and to penitent man God's mercy is limitless, and its recipient is he over whom the angels of heaven rejoice.

Charles Reade, an English barrister, and novelist. His works show rare constructive skill. He is somewhat extravagant in incident, but a graphic delineator of character and plot. His chief works are. Peg Woffington, Christie Johnston, and Never too late to mend.

ONE WAY OF TEACHING GRAMMAR. —(VI.)

BY MISS IDA M. GARDNER.

Topic: Attribute.

Definition: The attribute of a sentence is a part of the predicate used to denote some property, quality, or condition of that which the subject names; or it may be a part of the predicate used to denote the same person or thing as the subject.

Method: Give the predicate of this sentence: "The cord is elastic."

Answer.—"Is elastic."

What name do we give to that which belongs to any one or anything?

Ans.—Property.

Then what is the elasticity of the cord?

Ans.—A property of the cord.

Of what is the word "elastic" a part?

Ans.—It is a part of the predicate.

What does this part of the predicate denote?

Ans.—A property of the cord.

What part of this sentence is used to name the cord?

Ans.—The subject.

Tell me all about the word "elastic."

Ans.—It is a part of the predicate used to denote a property of that which the subject names.

Take this sentence,—"The cloth is coarse"; what is the predicate?

Ans.—"Is coarse."

Describe the word "coarse."

Ans.—It is a part of the predicate used to denote a property of that which the subject names.

Use a better word for "property" in this case. No one can? What is the *quality* of the cloth spoken of? Was it coarse or fine?

Then what does the word "coarse" denote?

Ans.—A quality of that which the subject names.

Tell me about "coarse."

Ans.—It is part of the predicate used to denote a quality of that which the subject names.

Take this sentence,—"The man was insane"; what is the predicate?

Ans.—"Was insane."

What was the condition of this man?

Ans.—He was insane.

Then tell me about the word "insane."

Ans.—It is a part of the predicate used to denote a condition of that which the subject names.

Now let us review. Give me your last statement about the word "elastic"; about the word "coarse"; about the word "insane." In each case we have an attribute of a sentence; can you tell me what we mean by the attribute of a sentence?

Ans.—An attribute of a sentence is a part of the predicate used to denote some property, quality, or condition of that which the subject names.

Take this sentence,—"Those men are carpenters"; give me the predicate.

Ans.—"Are carpenters."

Does the word "carpenters" denote the same persons as the subject, or does it denote different persons?

Ans.—It denotes the same persons as the subject.

In the sentence "The shores are empires," what is the predicate?

Ans.—"Are empires."

Compare the thing denoted by "empires" with that denoted by the subject.

Ans.—It is the same.

Describe the word "empires."

Ans.—It is part of the predicate used to denote the same thing as the subject.

Give the definition of *attribute*. Add to it the words, "or it may be a part of the predicate used to denote the same person or thing as the subject." Now give the complete definition.

Topic: Copula.

Definition: The copula is a part of the predicate used to connect the attribute with the subject.

Method: In the last sentence give the subject.

Ans.—"Shores."

Give the predicate.

Ans.—"Are empires."

Name the attribute.

Ans.—"Empires."

What word connects the attribute with the subject?

Ans.—The word "are."

Describe this part of the predicate. Because it joins or couples the attribute to the subject it is called the copula of the sentence. Define copula.

EXERCISE I.

Select the attributes and copulas in the following sentences, and give reason for your choice:

1. All men are mortal.
2. Washington was truthful.
3. To err is human.
4. To forgive is divine.
5. To lie is disgraceful.
6. Poverty is no sin.
7. Work is no disgrace.
8. Industry is the primal blessing.
9. The school is the manufactory of humanity.
10. Remorse is virtue's root.
11. Great men are rare.
12. Eloquence is the child of knowledge.
13. Life is the gift of God.
14. Experience is the test of truth.
15. Love is the true price of love.

EXERCISE II.

Write sentences containing attribute and copula. Underline the attributes with one line, the copulas with two.

Topic: Simple subject.

Definition: The simple subject of a sentence is the subject without any limitations.

Method: "The old tree was blown down." Name the subject without any of its limitations.

Ans.—"Tree."

"Tree" is the simple subject of this sentence. Define simple subject.

Topic: Simple predicate.

Definition: The simple predicate of a sentence is the predicate without any limitations.

Method: As for simple subject.

Topic: Complex subject.