

III SUBJECT AND PREDICATE.

1. In every sentence there are two important things to be noticed—

I. That there is *something stated*.

II. That there is something named *about which* the statement is made.

Birds fly.

Here the *thing stated* is denoted by the word "fly." The thing *about which* the statement is made is denoted by the word "bird."

In the following sentences tell WHO or WHAT is spoken about, and what is the thing STATED.

1. Columbus discovered America.
2. Leaves have their time to fall.
3. Iron is the most useful metal.
4. The lawyer hummed an old love-tune.
5. The squirrel eyes the browning chestnuts.

2. DEFINITIONS.—The name of the person or thing about which the statement is made is called the subject.

The word or words used in making the statement are called the predicate.

4. Every sentence must contain a subject and a predicate, because every sentence must be a statement.

N.B.—The question "*Who (or what) is mentioned?*" will always suggest the subject as its answer. And "*What is said of the subject?*" will give the predicate.