

Compound Verb and Single Verb: Breaking Apart

Every sentence must have at least one verb.

Example 1: Ben washed the dishes.

In some sentences one subject can have two verbs which is called a compound verb.

Example 2: Ben washed and dried the dishes.

In Example 2 *washed* and *dried* are both the verbs in the sentence. Notice how they are joined with the conjunction *and*.

Below are sentences with a compound verb. Rewrite each sentence as two sentences with only one verb in each sentence.

1. The bear clawed and scratched at the tree.
2. The road rose and twisted around the mountain.
3. We liked the book but disliked the movie.
4. Hailey cleaned her room and dusted the living room.
5. The wildfire roared into the valley and destroyed all the brush along the way.
6. Earth orbits the sun and rotates on its axis.
7. While asleep, Liam had a nightmare and yelled out loud.
8. You should pay attention to the details and follow directions.

Compound Verb and Single Verb: Breaking Apart

Every sentence must have at least one verb.

Example 1: Ben washed the dishes.

In some sentences one subject can have two verbs which is called a compound verb.

Example 2: Ben washed and dried the dishes.

In Example 2 *washed* and *dried* are both the verbs in the sentence. Notice how they are joined with the conjunction *and*.

Below are sentences with a compound verb. Rewrite each sentence as two sentences with only one verb in each sentence.

Answers: Actual student's answers may vary. Example of correct answers:

1. The bear clawed and scratched at the tree.

The bear clawed at the tree. It also scratched at the tree.

2. The road rose and twisted around the mountain.

The road rose. It twisted around the mountain.

3. We liked the book but disliked the movie.

We liked the book. We disliked the movie.

4. Hailey cleaned her room and dusted the living room.

Hailey cleaned her room. She dusted the living room too.

5. The wildfire roared into the valley and destroyed all the brush along the way.

The wildfire roared into the valley. It destroyed all the brush along the way.

6. Earth orbits the sun and rotates on its axis.

Earth orbits the sun. It rotates on its axis.

7. While asleep, Liam had a nightmare and yelled out loud.

While asleep, Liam had a nightmare. He yelled out loud.

8. You should pay attention to the details and follow directions.

You should pay attention to the details. You should also follow directions.