

## Basic Components of the Sentence: Subject and Predicate

- sentence is the basic unit of written communication.
- A complete sentence needs 2 things:
  - 1 *subject*: tells who/what the sentence is about. The main part of the subject is a noun or pronoun.
  - 2 *predicate*: tells the reader something the subject is doing or what is being observed about it, main part is a verb.

**A sentence is a group of words that contains at least one subject and one predicate and needs nothing else to complete its thought.**

- A clause is a group of words that contains a subject and a predicate. Clauses can be combined to create longer or more complex sentences than simple sentences.
- **Independent clauses have a subject and a predicate and can stand alone as complete sentences.**
- **Dependent clauses have a subject and a predicate but cannot stand alone as complete sentences because they are *subordinate to* or *dependent on* another clause to convey a complete thought.**
- **Fused (or Run-On) Sentences:** two sentences joined without stopping (like running a stop sign). A sentence may contain one, two, or more independent clauses
- they must be separated either by a period or joined correctly so the reader can distinguish one main idea from another.