

Clarity and Action

Purpose: Upon completion of this activity, students will be able to define the terms “simple subject” and “verb” and will understand and apply the principles of clarity as described in the reading. **This DLA should take approximately 1 ½ to 2 hours to complete.**

Go to the WRC reception desk and ask to check out Joseph M. Williams’ *Style: Lessons in Clarity and Grace*. You will need a driver’s license or other photo identification to check this book out for use in the WRC.

1. Read Lesson 3 entitled “Actions.”
2. On a separate sheet of paper, answer the following questions about the reading:
 - a. What is a verb?
 - b. What is a simple subject?
 - c. What is the first principle of clarity? Write your own original example and label the simple subject and the verb in your example.
 - d. What is the second principle of clarity?
 - e. Define “nominalization” and write your own original example of one.
3. Stop here. If you feel you need additional practice identifying subjects and verbs, or if your instructor requests, access worksheet #3 entitled “Subjects and Predicates” on the WRC’s web site. Complete this worksheet and check your answers using the answer key at the reception desk.
4. Next, complete Exercise 3.7 on a separate sheet of paper.
5. Before reviewing your answers with an instructor or tutor, use the space below to write any questions you still have about subjects, verbs, and nominalizations:

6. Bring the book, worksheet #3 if you completed it, and Exercise 3.7 to an instructor or tutor to review. Have that person sign and date this sheet.

Instructor/Tutor signature

Date