

## Subject Complements

**13d.** A **subject complement** is a word or word group that completes the meaning of a linking verb and that identifies or describes the subject.

**EXAMPLES** The horse seemed exhausted. [The adjective *exhausted* completes the meaning of the linking verb *seemed* and describes the subject *horse*.]  
Roberto became a teacher. [The noun *teacher* completes the meaning of the linking verb *became* and identifies the subject *Roberto*.]

**EXERCISE A** In the following sentences, circle the linking verb and underline the subject complement.

**Example 1.** Jeremiah is a friend of mine.

- Joyce certainly seemed busy this afternoon.
- Over the years, the song became an anthem for a generation.
- The tall man at the back of the photograph is my grandfather.
- Are the pies ready yet?
- The bad weather in Minnesota this time of year is a good reason to stay home.
- The cat seems friendly.
- Jake is the winner of this week's prize.
- Dr. Morbius appears happy about the results of his experiment.
- Irene was the last person out of the pool.
- Carey was the most improved player.

**EXERCISE B** In the blank in each of the following sentences, write a subject complement that will complete the meaning of the linking verb.

**Example 1.** Kyle felt excited after he heard the news.

- Gail became a respected \_\_\_\_\_ after she graduated from college.
- Michael appeared \_\_\_\_\_ as he played his guitar and sang for us.
- The squirrel seemed \_\_\_\_\_ when we walked past it.
- Does the soup taste too \_\_\_\_\_ to you?
- We all thought that the movie was very \_\_\_\_\_.