

Matching Exercise: Subjects and predicates of proverbs

Instructions:

1. Duplicate the sentence subjects on colored paper, and the sentence predicates on paper of a contrasting color. Cut along the lines to make individual cards.
2. Distribute the cards with sentence subjects to half of the class, and the cards with corresponding sentence predicates to the other half of the class. (Give each student one card; set leftover cards aside.) Clarify the meaning of unknown words.
3. Students mingle with classmates who are holding cards of a contrasting color until they find a match that makes a complete proverb.
4. When students find a match, they confirm the match with the teacher and then walk to the front of the room with their partner. (Or they can “freeze” in place with their partner.)
5. Students read the proverbs aloud to the class.

Variation: Scatter the cards on a table. Students stand around the table and work collaboratively to match subjects and predicates.

Note: Each proverb is well known in the country listed below it. Of course, the proverb, or a version of it, might be well known in other countries as well.

1. SUBJECTS

A dog that barks all the time	Clouds that make thunder
The softest pillow	The person who knows the most

An ounce of prevention	The way to a man's heart
Tomorrow	No flies
The nail that sticks up	The squeaky wheel
Bad news	An apple a day
Fish and house guests	A watched flower

Precious things	Two wrongs
A heart that loves	A liar
A journey of a thousand miles	

2. PREDICATES

doesn't get much attention. Argentina	do not always make rain. Armenia
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is a clear conscience. France	often speaks the least. Spain
is worth a pound of cure. United States	is through his stomach. United States
is often the busiest day of the week. Spain	enter a closed mouth. Spain
gets hammered down. Japan	gets the oil. United States
travels fast. United States	keeps the doctor away. United States

stink after three days. United States	never blooms. China
come in small packages. United States	don't make a right. United States
is always young. Greece	needs a good memory. Italy
begins with a single step. China	