Raymond's Run (page 43)

Grammar SkillBuilder: Subjects in Unusual Word Order

Key Concept: Writers often use unusual word order to add variety and drama to their writing.

Subjects in Unusual Word Order

The usual word order in a sentence is subject, then verb. However, if every sentence in a piece of writing were to follow this order, the writing would be stilted and awkward. Here is a sentence that follows the usual word order:

Squeaky marched up the street, ready for a confrontation.

Notice how changing the order of subject and verb adds drama to the sentence:

Up the street **marched Squeaky**, ready for a confrontation.

Activity

Rewrite each sentence so that the subject follows the verb.

- 1. Raymond raced to the finish line.
- 2. Gretchen goes there.
- 3. The crowd cheered, "Go, Squeaky!"
- 4. Squeaky stood on the corner, admiring the weather.
- 5. Now my new career begins.