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Grammar SkillBuilder: Predicate Nouns and **Predicate Adjectives**

Key Concept: Writers use predicate nouns and predicate adjectives to describe or identify subjects in sentences that contain linking verbs.

Predicate Nouns and Predicate Adjectives

Predicate nouns and **predicate adjectives** can be found in sentences that contain linking verbs. Common linking verbs include forms of the verb to be and the verbs appear, become, feel, grow, look, remain, seem, smell, sound, stay, taste, and turn.

Predicate nouns rename, identify, or define subjects.

Terry **is** an athlete. subject 7 predicate noun

Predicate adjectives describe subjects by telling which one, what kind, how many, or how much.

Terry **feels** embarrassed.

subject 1 predicate adjective

Activity

Complete the sentences below using predicate nouns or adjectives, as indicated. Underline the linking verbs.

Example: His eyes looked (adjective) strange

- 1. At the hardware store Terry's father became (adjective) .
- 2. Terry's father was a (noun) ______.
- 3. Terry became (adjective) ____ about his father's war experiences.
- 4. Terry's mother was (adjective) _____ of her husband.
- 5. When Terry finally asked about Vietnam, his father seemed (adjective) to talk about it.
- 6. The story that he finally told was (adjective) .
- 7. Terry's father seemed (adjective) . . .
- 8. As he listened to his father, Terry felt (adjective) .
- 9. The story about the war was finally the (noun) .
- 10. The discussion was a (noun)