

**from High Tide in Tucson (page 142)****Grammar SkillBuilder: Compound Subjects and Compound Predicates**

**Key Concept:** Writers use compound subjects and predicates to create more interesting sentences.

**Compound Subjects**

When a sentence has more than one subject, it is said to have a **compound subject**. A compound subject joined by *and* takes a plural verb.

A sleek male **hawk** and a great horned **owl** roost in the trees.

**Compound Predicates**

When a sentence has more than one main verb, it is said to have a **compound predicate**. There is no comma between the verbs.

Javalinas come down to **drink** and unabashedly **wallow**.

**Activity**

**A.** Add a subject to each sentence to create a compound subject. When necessary, change the verb to a plural verb.

1. Nighthawks eat insects at night.
2. A backswimmer darts through the water.
3. The owl keeps the lonely author company.
4. The trees blossom in the spring.
5. The plants teach a lesson to the author.

**B.** Add a verb to each sentence to create a compound predicate. Use the word *and* or the word *or* to combine the verbs in your compound predicates.

1. Water lilies open their flowers.
2. The snake catches a frog.
3. Every minute, something at the pond is eating.
4. Rain filled the pond.
5. Dragonflies floated in the air.