

Adding *Who, Which or That*

This resource will show you how to correct sentences with mixed construction or double verb errors where one of the verbs is missing the subject.

The sentence below is an example of a sentence with two verbs where one of the verbs is missing a subject:

People own cars must pay high insurance costs.

Subject	Verb	Object
<i>People</i>	<i>own</i>	<i>cars</i>
	<i>must pay</i>	<i>high insurance costs</i>

Missing subject

Although double verb errors like this one can be corrected in several ways, the easiest fix is to add a relative pronoun (such as “that, which, or who”) to create a new subject for one of the verbs.

People [who own cars] must pay high insurance costs.

Subject	Verb	Object
<i>People</i> ↑	<i>must pay</i>	<i>high insurance costs</i>
<i>who</i>	<i>own</i>	<i>cars</i>

However, the relative pronoun (e.g., *who, which, that*) needs to go with the correct verb for the right meaning. For example, the following sentence does not make sense:

Error: *People have cars who must pay high costs for insurance.*

Here is another example sentence that can be fixed with “which” or “that:”

Incorrect sentence: *I found a path goes to the river.*

Correct sentence: *I found a path that goes to the river.*