Grammar Explanation

Correcting missing and repeated subjects

To correct mistakes with missing or repeated subjects:

- Check that every verb in the sentence has a subject.
  - Incorrect: *I believe is important to educate all residents.*
  - Corrected: *I believe it is important to educate all residents.*

- Do not repeat the subject with a pronoun right after the subject.
  - Incorrect: *The Chinese economy it is growing rapidly.*
  - Corrected: *The Chinese economy is growing rapidly.*

- Make sure the subject of the sentence is a noun (e.g., *students*), a noun phrase (e.g., *many students who attend CUNY*), or a pronoun (e.g., *they*).
  - Incorrect: *The firefighter rushed to the building. Unfortunately, was not able to enter.*
  - Corrected: *The firefighter rushed to the building. Unfortunately, he was not able to enter.*

- The subject cannot be a prepositional phrase. Always use a noun phrase, a noun, a pronoun, or a filler (*there, here*) before the verb.
  - Incorrect: *In our community are many children who need childcare.*
  - Corrected: *In our community, there are many children who need childcare.*

Excerpted from: Sentence Structure: Exercise 5