

subject

1 Verb + subject

Use the correct form of these verbs:

change	come up
deal with	drop
get onto	talk about

1. Can we a different subject please?
I really don't like talking about other people behind their backs.
2. When I asked him about his job, he just the subject like a hot potato!
3. How did we the subject of your mother? I thought we were discussing holidays.
4. His poems often the subject of death.
5. I asked Richard about the money he owed me, but he just the subject and started talking about his health problems.
6. We didn't intend talking about his divorce. The subject just in conversation.

2 Common adjective collocations

Use these adjectives in the sentences:

cheerful	chosen
pet	complex
taboo	touchy

1. Death is a subject in many western societies. People tend not to talk openly about it.
2. Can we talk about a more subject?
Funerals aren't a very happy thing to talk about.
3. Once he gets onto his subject of football hooligans, there's no stopping him. So don't encourage him or he'll talk for hours.
4. I can't understand why the break-up of her marriage is still such a subject. Surely she can talk about it now without getting upset.
5. In the examination, each candidate has to talk for two minutes on their subject.
6. Whether scientists should be free to experiment on human embryos is a very subject.

These examples deal with a different meaning:

favourite	core	compulsory
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7. Everybody has to take English. It's a subject in our school system.
8. Chemistry and biology are my subjects.
9. You have to take six subjects and two optional ones.

3 On the subject

Use these words to complete the sentences:

authority	briefly	information
holidays	nothing	views

1. I have further to say on the subject of your wedding. As far as I'm concerned, the matter is closed.
2. We only touched on the subject of salaries during the meeting.
3. The Pope's on the subject are well known.
4. She's the leading on the subject of South American butterflies. She knows pretty well everything there is to know on the subject.
5. I've read every scrap of I can find on the subject.
6. Oh, on the subject of, have you thought where we could be going this summer?

4 Be the subject of

Use these nouns in the sentences:

concern	debate	discrimination	speculation
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1. The Minister's controversial views on immigration have been the subject of much in the media.
2. We encourage any employee who has been the subject of to report it immediately.
3. Her private life is the subject of much in the press at the moment.
4. The huge number of heavy vehicles passing through the village has been a subject of this year.

Notes

1. Note these verbs used to introduce a subject:
By tacit agreement, the subject was never mentioned.
At some point we've got to discuss money but I don't know quite how to broach the subject with him.
Don't blame me. It was you who brought up the subject, not me.
I'm glad you raised the subject of safety. I think it is very important.
2. If you 'know your subject', you are an expert on it.