What, exactly, does it mean to be the *subject*, as distinct from merely the *term*, of relations?

Whereas *x* can be merely the term of relations even where the relations in question are all *external* to *x*, and therefore do not in any way complicate it, or qualitatively modify it, *x* can be the subject, as distinct from merely the term, of relations only where the relations in question are all *internal* to *x*, and therefore do in some way complicate it, or qualitatively modify it.

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