

Kingsborough Learning Center

ENGLISH TEAS WORKSHOP Practice Material: Subject-Verb Agreement

The Basic Rule: Singular subjects have singular verbs and plural subjects have plural verbs.

Example 1: *Jason walks to the store.*

Example 2: *The brothers walk to the store.*

Other Examples:

1. When **connecting nouns with "of"**, the noun before "of" is the subject:

Example 1: *The bag of groceries is on the table.*

Example 2: *The bags of groceries are on the table.*

Exception: When using expressions that indicate portions ("some of", "half of", etc.), the verb matches the noun after "of".

Example 1: *Many of the people want to go home.*

Example 2: *Some of the cake is gone.*

2. **Two subjects joined by "and"** have a plural verb:

Example: *The motorcycle and the car race down the road.*

3. When including **multiple subjects connected with "or" or "nor"**, the verb matches the closest subject:

Example 1: *The mother or the father makes supper each day.*

Example 2: *Neither the mother nor her children want to take out the garbage.*

Note: If the sentence feels awkward, consider reordering your subjects or rephrasing the sentence.

4. **Sometimes multiple items make up a single unit** and thus use a singular verb. This is common with periods of time, amounts of money, and measures of distance:

Example 1: *Forty-five minutes is a long wait.*

Example 2: *Ten dollars is a fair price.*

5. **With “here” or “there”**, the verb matches the noun after the verb.

Example 1: *There are the documents.*

Example 2: *Here is a pencil.*

Subject-Verb Agreement Worksheet 1

The basic rule is that a singular subject takes a singular verb while a plural subject takes a plural verb.

Directions: Use the present-tense form of the verb in parentheses that agrees in number with the subject.

*Example A: John _____ going to the mall after school today.
(are) Answer: is*

1. This basketball game _____ one of the most entertaining ever. (be)
2. She _____ a lot of work to complete tonight for homework. (have)
3. All the players _____ the game very excited. (start)
4. Today, players _____ very excited to play all the time. (be)
5. The players _____ all focused during the game. (is)
6. My family _____ to see the games as much as possible. (go)
7. The teams _____ always ready to put on a good show. (is)
8. The family _____ to get popcorn before the game starts. (like)
9. The sport _____ to make sure the fans feel welcomed. (need)

10. A few minutes _____ enough time for everyone to sit down. (is)
11. The United States _____ really good basketball players. (have)
12. Ten dollars _____ the price of admission to the event. (are)
13. The coach _____ to be very upset with the team. (appear)
14. The bus _____ ready to pick up the team after the game. (is)
15. The family _____ watching movies together. (enjoy)
16. Susan _____ a lot of helpful friends. (have)

Subject-Verb Agreement Worksheet 2

The basic rule is that a singular subject takes a singular verb while a plural subject takes a plural verb.

Directions: Read each sentence and choose the correct verb in parenthesis.

1. The players (are, is) going to the pizza restaurant after today's game.
2. Jane (were, was) going to go with the team but she had chores to do.
3. Stephen (is, are) one of the best players on the team.
4. The coach (was, were) very excited that the team won the tournament.
5. They (is, are) one of the highest scoring teams in the league.
6. My best friend (were, was) there when I arrived.
7. Where (do, does) your parents live?

Directions: Use the present-tense form of the verb in parentheses that agrees in number with the subject.

*Example A: John _____ going to the mall after school today.
(are) Answer: is*

8. This basketball game _____ one of the most entertaining ever. (be)
9. She _____ a lot of work to complete tonight for homework. (have)

10. All the players _____ the game very excited.
(start)

11. Today, players _____ very excited to play all the
time. (be)

12. The players _____ all focused during the game.
(is)

13. My family _____ to see the games as much as
possible. (go)