



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH [2024– 2025]

TOPIC: Subject Verb Agreement

HANDOUT

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NAME: _____ CLASS: V SEC: ____ DATE: _____

Subject – Verb Agreement refers to the relationship between the subject and its verb.

Points to remember:

A **verb** must agree with its **subject** in **number** and **person**.

1. A singular subject (**he, she, it**) takes a singular verb.
We add '**s/es**' to the main verb to form the present tense.
E.g. The dog **barks**.

A plural subject (**you, we, they**) takes a plural verb.
We do not add '**s/es**' to the main verb to form the present tense.
E.g. The dogs **bark**.

Verbs do not form their plural with an 's' like nouns.
To determine which verb is **singular** or **plural**, think which verb you would use with **he/she** and which verb you would use with **they**.
2. '**am**' is the only verb that is used with the pronoun **I**.
3. The verb is plural if two or more singular subjects are joined by **and**.
E.g. Rahul and Sachin **are** playing cricket.

4. Countable nouns- singular /plural take their verbs accordingly.
E.g. The goods **have** been delivered on time.
The desk **was** damaged.
5. Uncountable nouns take a singular verb.
E.g. The information **was** given to the students.
Honesty **is** the best policy.
6. Collective nouns take singular verbs
E.g. My **family** is settled in Muscat.
The **class** is making a lot of noise.
When emphasizing individual members of a group, then the collective noun takes a plural verb.
E.g. The staff members **were** given a monthly bonus.

Singular Subject	Singular Verb	Plural Subject	Plural Verbs
he/she/it	is	we/ you/ they	are
	was		were
	has		have
	does		do
	plays		play
	sings		sing

Note: 'You' which is used as a singular and plural subject always takes plural verb.