



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

CLASS: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: JULY 2026
WORKSHEET NO:11	Topic: SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT	Note: NOTEBOOK



Subject-verb agreement means that the subject and the verb of a sentence agree in number with each other. A singular subject takes a singular verb (he runs), while a plural subject takes a plural verb (they run).



Pro Tip: The 'S' Rule

In the present tense, singular verbs usually end in **-s** (he *runs*), while plural verbs do not (they *run*). This is the opposite of how nouns work!

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT RULES:

Rule	Example
1. Compound Subjects: Two singular subjects joined by ' <i>and</i> ' take a plural verb.	Sarah and Lily visit the park.

2. Singular Indefinite Pronouns: Words like <i>someone, somebody, anybody, each, everyone, either,</i> and <i>neither</i> are always singular.	Somebody is responsible for this mistake.
3. Either/Or & Neither/Nor: The verb agrees with the subject closest to it.	Neither Bob nor his brothers walk to the store.
4. Plural Indefinite Pronouns: <i>Many, both, several,</i> and <i>few</i> always take plural verbs.	Few have finished their homework on time.
5. 'None of': Use a singular verb for uncountable nouns and a plural verb for countable plural nouns. ('None' is often used with the preposition 'of')	None of the information is accurate. / None of the books were damaged.
6. Fractions & Percentages: Verb depends on whether the noun following is countable (plural) or uncountable (singular).	Half of the apples were rotten. / Half of the cake was eaten.
7. Here/There: The verb agrees with the subject that follows it.	There are several books on the table.

⚠ Note: Shared vs. Distinct Identity

- **One Idea:** If two subjects represent one idea, use a singular verb. (*Slow and steady **wins** the race.*)
- **Same Person:** If two nouns refer to the same person, use a singular verb. (*The poet and philosopher **is** respected.*)
- **Two Persons:** If the article 'the' is mentioned twice, they are distinct people. (*The poet and the philosopher **are** respected.*)

Rule	Example
8. Paired Items: <i>Scissors, pants, and shoes</i> are plural. However, <i>a pair of...</i> is singular.	My shoes are under the bed. / A pair of shoes is under the bed.

9. Collective Nouns: Groups like <i>flock, team, jury, fleet, herd, or company/regiment</i> generally take a singular verb.	A flock of sheep is grazing in the field.
10. Proper Nouns: Titles of books or names of hotels take a singular verb.	<i>Gulliver's Travels</i> is an interesting book.
11. Plural-Looking Nouns: Words like <i>Mathematics, Civics, and Measles</i> are singular.	Genetics is a fascinating subject.
12. Intervening Phrases: Nouns joined by ' <i>with</i> ', ' <i>as well as</i> ', ' <i>along with</i> ', or ' <i>together with</i> ', the verb agrees only with the first noun.	The dog, as well as its puppies, was rescued.
13. Measurements: Expressions of time, money, weight, or height take a singular verb when taken as a whole.	Fifty dollars is a reasonable price.

NOTE

- ✓ A collective noun names a whole group, e.g. army, club, class, team, jury, staff, band, crowd, etc.
- ✓ A parenthesis (words in brackets) is not part of the subject of a sentence. E.g.: Jimmy (and his aunts) loves the new apartment.



Let's Practice!

Exercise 1 – Fill in the blanks with the correct form of the verb given in brackets:

- The dog and the cat _____ (play/plays) happily in the garden.
- Bread and butter _____ (is/are) my favourite breakfast.



3. Everybody _____ (love/loves) a good story.
4. Neither the students nor the teacher _____ (was/were) late for assembly.
5. Several of the guests _____ (has/have) already arrived at the venue.
6. None of the water _____ (was/were) spilled on the floor.
7. Half of the mangoes _____ (was/were) ripe enough to eat.
8. There _____ (is/are) many reasons to celebrate today.
9. A pair of scissors _____ (is/are) lying on the desk.
10. The committee _____ (has/have) decided on the venue for the fair.
11. Economics _____ (is/are) one of my favourite subjects.
12. The captain, together with his teammates, _____ (was/were) present at practice.

Exercise 2 – Complete the letter with the correct form of the verbs given in brackets:



Dear Farah,

I hope you 1. _____ (is/are) doing well. Sarah and Lily visited me last weekend.

Neither the teachers nor the principal 2. _____ (has/have) announced the annual day date yet. Many of my classmates 3. _____ (has/have) already started rehearsing.

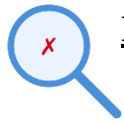
None of the costumes 4. _____ (is/are) ready, and half of the paint 5. _____ (was/were) left over. There 6. _____ (is/are) still a lot to be done!

A pair of gloves I ordered 7. _____ (is/are) missing. Our dance team, along with the teacher, 8. _____ (was/were) practising all week.

Have you read *Gulliver's Travels*? It 9. _____ (is/are) one of our recommended books. Mathematics 10. _____ (is/are) getting harder this term too.

Yours lovingly,

Anya



Exercise 3 – Identify the errors in the following sentences (if any) and rewrite them correctly:

1. The bunch of keys are on the table.
2. Each of the boys have submitted their assignment.
3. The audience are cheering loudly for the singer.
4. The players, along with their coach, was interviewed after the match.
5. Neither the driver nor the passengers is wearing a seatbelt.
6. Everyone enjoy the annual sports day.
7. The rules in the handbook needs to be followed.
8. Neither the fog nor the rain affect the flight schedule.
9. Statistics require a strong grasp of mathematics.
10. Several employees enjoys the flexible working hours.
