



INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

CLASS: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of Submission: JAN 2026
WORKSHEET NO: 26	Topic: SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT	Note: NOTEBOOK

SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

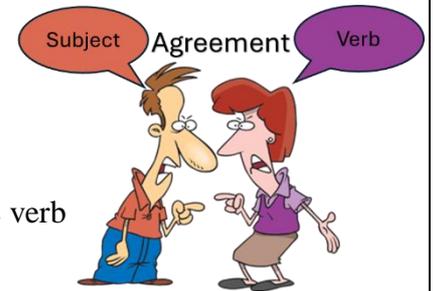
Subject-verb agreement means that the **subject** and the **verb** of a sentence agree in number with each other. Singular subjects take singular verbs (he runs), plural subjects take plural verbs (they run).



SUBJECT -VERB AGREEMENT RULES:

1. When a sentence has two singular objects joined by the conjunction 'and', the verb must be plural. A subject that is made up of two or more nouns is a compound subject. When the parts are connected by 'and', the subject is plural, so it takes a plural verb.

E.g.: Tom, Alex, and Ryan ride their bikes together.
Sarah and Lily visit the park.



NOTE:

- ✓ Sometimes two subjects are regarded as representing one idea, then the verb is singular.
E.g.: Slow and steady wins the race.
- ✓ If two singular nouns refer to the same person or thing, the verb must be singular.
Eg: The poet and philosopher is respected by everyone.
- ✓ If the article is mentioned twice, then two distinct persons are intended, and the verb used must be plural.
Eg: The poet and the philosopher are respected by everyone.

2. The following indefinite pronouns are singular and take singular verbs.

Someone, Somebody, Something, another, anybody, anyone, anything, nobody, no one, nothing each, everybody, everything everyone, either, neither.

Eg: Somebody is responsible for this mistake.
Anybody is welcome to join us.

3. Subjects joined by 'either/ or...neither/ nor' take verb (singular/ plural) that agrees with the last subject or the subject closest to the verb.

Eg: Either Bob or his brother walks to the store.
Neither Bob nor his brothers walk to the store.

4. The following pronouns are plural and take a plural verb.

Many, both, several, few

Eg: Both are ready for the presentation.

Few have finished their homework on time.

5. Often none is used with the preposition of. If the noun following the preposition (of) is singular, use a singular verb, whereas if the noun following the preposition is plural, use a plural verb.

Eg: None of the information is accurate.

None of the books were damaged.

6. Some of, half of (and any other fraction of) take a plural verb if the reference is to number (countable), but takes a singular verb if the reference is to amount or quantity (i.e. uncountable).

Eg: Half of the apples were rotten.

Half of the cake was eaten.

7. When the sentence begins with an introductory 'there' or 'here', the verb agrees with the subject that follows it.

Eg: Here comes the bus.

There are several books on the table.

8. Words such as scissors, shoes, trousers, pliers, shears and pants are regarded as plural and require plural verbs but if they are preceded by the phrase 'a pair of...' (the word 'pair' becomes the subject), it takes a singular verb.

Eg: My shoes are under the bed.

A pair of shoes is under the bed.

9. Collective nouns such as a group (of things), a crowd (of people), a herd (of cattle), a flock (of sheep), a fleet (of ships), a gang (of thieves), a board (of directors), a company/ regiment (of soldiers), generally takes a singular verb.

Eg: A gang of thieves is arrested by the police.

A flock of sheep is grazing in the field.

**NOTE: A Collective Noun is a noun used to name a whole group.
Army, club, class, team, jury, staff, band, crowd, etc**

10. When the plural noun is a proper name for some single object (title of the book, the name of a house or hotel), it must be followed by a singular verb since it is only one title or one building.

E.g.: Gulliver's Travels is an interesting book.

11. The following nouns are singular, although they appear to be plural. As the subject of a sentence, they take a singular verb.

**Civics, Athletics, Genetics, Politics, Economics, Statistics, Mathematics,
Measles, Diabetes, etc**

E.g.: Mumps is a serious illness.

Swimming is a healthy exercise.

12. If two nouns are joined by with or as well as, along with, together with, with etc. then the verb agrees with the first noun. In other words, if the first noun is singular, the verb must be singular, even if the second noun is plural.

E.g.: The dog, as well as its puppies, was rescued.

The author, along with the editors, is attending the book launch.

NOTE: A parenthesis is not included in the subject of a sentence.

E.g.: Jimmy (and his aunts) loves the new apartment.

The boxers (and their coach) board a bus to the stadium.

13. Use a singular verb for expressions of measurement, heights, weights, time, or money when the amount is considered or taken as a whole.

E.g.: Fifty dollars is a reasonable price.

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

1. My brother, along with his friends, _____ (visit/visits) us every weekend.
2. Neither the teacher nor the students _____ (understand/understands) the question.
3. The news _____ (is/are) very encouraging.
4. Each of the players _____ (practice/practices) regularly.
5. One of the books _____ (belong/belongs) to me.
6. The captains, with all the players, _____ (lead/leads) the team confidently.
7. A pair of shoes _____ (is/are) missing.
8. The bouquet of flowers _____ (smell/smells) lovely.
9. The jury _____ (deliver/delivers) its verdict today.
10. The quality of these products _____ (improve/improves) over time.



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



Dear Riya,

I hope you _____ (be) well. Every morning, my family and I _____ (take) a walk in the park. The trees and the flowers _____ (look) beautiful, and each bird _____ (sing) happily. The gardener, along with his assistants, _____ (take) care of the plants carefully. Several children _____ (play) near the fountain, and the ice-cream seller _____ (sell) cold treats. Neither the noise nor the heat _____ (disturb) us during our walk. My little brother _____ (enjoy) feeding the ducks, and my parents _____ (love) watching him. The news about the upcoming school event _____ (excite) everyone in the neighbourhood. I hope you _____ (visit) us soon so that you _____ (see) all these wonderful sights yourself.

Yours lovingly,
Anna

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

1. The list of items are on the table.
2. Each of the students have finished their homework.
3. The team are playing well today.
4. The teachers, along with the student, was present.
5. Neither the manager nor the employees is satisfied.
6. Everyone enjoy the party.
7. The books on the shelf needs to be arranged.
8. Neither the rain nor the wind affect the match.
9. Mathematics require regular practice.
10. Several students enjoys reading during recess.

