

Subject-Verb Agreement – Full Rules with 10 Examples Each

1. Singular Subject Singular Verb

- * The boy runs fast.
- * She drinks coffee every morning.
- * A cat sleeps on the couch.
- * My brother works in a bank.
- * The sun rises in the east.
- * Her voice sounds beautiful.
- * An apple a day keeps the doctor away.
- * He watches cartoons every Sunday.
- * That girl writes neatly.
- * The teacher explains the lesson clearly.

2. Plural Subject Plural Verb

- * Dogs bark at strangers.
- * Children play in the park.
- * The books lie on the table.
- * My friends live abroad.
- * Birds fly in the sky.
- * The players train every morning.
- * Leaves fall in autumn.
- * Cars honk in traffic.
- * These shoes fit perfectly.
- * My cousins visit often.

3. 'I' and 'You' take plural verbs

- * I think it's a good idea.
- * You look amazing today.
- * I walk to school daily.
- * You write very well.
- * I want to learn French.
- * You play the guitar beautifully.
- * I enjoy painting.
- * You seem tired.
- * I bake cookies on weekends.
- * You always bring good energy.

4. Two or more subjects joined by 'and' Plural verb

- * Ravi and Raj are best friends.
- * The teacher and the student were talking.
- * Apples and oranges are healthy.
- * Mom and Dad are cooking together.
- * Pen and paper are required.
- * The singer and the dancer perform together.
- * The cat and the dog fight often.
- * My cousins and I go trekking.
- * The movie and the book were great.

* Shreya and her sister play chess.

5. Subjects joined by 'or' / 'nor' Verb agrees with nearest subject

* Neither the manager nor the employees are responsible.

* Either the teachers or the principal is coming.

* The cat or the dogs are in the yard.

* The books or the pen is on the desk.

* Neither she nor I am ready.

* Either you or your brother has to help.

* Neither the players nor the coach was happy.

* Either the kids or the mom is cooking.

* Neither John nor his friends know the answer.

* The boys or the girl is absent.

6. Indefinite pronouns like 'each', 'everyone', 'anyone' Singular verb

* Each student has a notebook.

* Everyone is excited about the trip.

* Every car needs servicing.

* Someone is knocking at the door.

* Anyone can participate in the contest.

* No one is allowed to enter.

* Each of the books is interesting.

* Every child wants a toy.

* Nobody is answering the phone.

* Everyone loves a good story.

7. Collective nouns Singular verb

* The team is practicing hard.

* The family lives in Mumbai.

* The committee decides tomorrow.

* The group is large.

* The audience claps loudly.

* The staff is on leave today.

* The army defends the border.

* The herd is moving slowly.

* The jury delivers its verdict.

* The crowd is cheering.

8. Amounts of money, time, distance Singular verb

* Five rupees is enough.

* Ten kilometers is a long distance.

* Twenty minutes is all I need.

* A thousand dollars is a big amount.

* Two hours is too much time.

* Five years is a long wait.

* Ten feet is the height.

* Four weeks is sufficient.

* Three litres is enough water.

* Sixty minutes is an hour.

9. 'Either', 'Neither' Singular verb

* Either answer is correct.

* Neither boy is ready.

* Either side wins.

* Neither road leads home.

* Either of the books is fine.

* Neither dress fits me.

* Either dish tastes good.

* Neither of them knows the truth.

* Either option sounds good.

* Neither student passed the test.

10. Quantifiers like 'many', 'few', 'both', 'several' Plural verb

* Many people are here.

* Few students attended.

* Both sisters are singers.

* Several books are missing.

* Many were absent.

* Few remained calm.

* Several dogs barked.

* Both were punished.

* Few understood the lesson.

* Many have arrived early.

11. Uncountable nouns Singular verb

* Water is essential.

* Milk is boiling.

* Sugar is sweet.

* Information is important.

* Furniture is expensive.

* Advice is helpful.

* Butter is on the table.

* Air is fresh today.

* Rice is cooked.

* Music is soothing.

12. Titles of books, movies, subjects Singular verb

* The Avengers is exciting.

* Mathematics is tough.

* The Chronicles of Narnia is a fantasy.

* Physics is interesting.

* The Lord of the Rings is popular.

* Civics is easy.

* Harry Potter is a best-seller.

* The Godfather is a classic.

* Economics is useful.

* The Jungle Book is famous.

13. 'There is' / 'There are' Verb agrees with the real subject

- * There is a pen on the table.
- * There are apples in the basket.
- * There is a dog outside.
- * There are many stars tonight.
- * There is a reason.
- * There are lots of questions.
- * There is someone at the door.
- * There are children in the park.
- * There is no hope.
- * There are five boys in the room.

14. 'With', 'as well as', 'along with' Don't change the verb

- * The teacher, along with her students, is present.
- * The captain, with all his men, was brave.
- * The doctor, as well as his nurse, is here.
- * The manager, along with staff, is available.
- * The leader, together with the volunteers, is helping.
- * My friend, as well as his parents, is attending.
- * The principal, with teachers, is planning the event.
- * The guide, along with tourists, is ready.
- * The author, as well as the editor, is famous.
- * My brother, with his dog, is walking.

15. Phrase or clause as subject Singular verb

- * What he said is true.
- * Running every day helps.
- * Reading books is fun.
- * Watching TV is not allowed now.
- * Speaking fluently is tough.
- * To swim in the sea is exciting.
- * Cooking well takes time.
- * Driving in rain is risky.
- * Singing in public is scary.
- * Walking alone is peaceful.

16. 'None but' Verb agrees with following noun

- * None but the brave deserve the fair.
- * None but heroes win medals.
- * None but the strong survive.
- * None but the wise succeed.
- * None but the honest are respected.
- * None but the quick can finish this.
- * None but workers are allowed.
- * None but the students passed.
- * None but players entered the field.
- * None but dancers were on stage.

17. Fractions or percentages Verb agrees with noun that follows

- * Half of the cake is eaten.
- * Three-fourths of the boys are here.
- * Twenty percent of the class is absent.
- * One-third of the pie is left.
- * Half of the apples are rotten.
- * Seventy percent of water is saltwater.
- * A quarter of the team is missing.
- * Two-thirds of the work is done.
- * One-fifth of the population is urban.
- * Ten percent of people agree.