



Subject & Verb Agreement

Agreement allows the readers to understand the relationship between the subject and verb. The subject and verb must agree in number even when other words come between them.

Subject	Verb	Example
Singular	Singular	The boy enjoys sports.
Plural	Plural	Students study .
Compound + and	Plural	My sister and brother play sports.
Compound with a singular meaning	Singular	Macaroni and cheese is my favorite dish.
Joined by either...or, neither...nor	Agrees with subject nearest verb	Neither the students nor the professor understands the lecturer. Or Neither the professor nor the students understand the lecturer.
Collective nouns that act as a whole	Singular	The class listens carefully.
Singular indefinite pronoun (Ex: one, everyone, each, anyone, nobody, etc.)	Singular	Everyone has gone home. Each student needs his or her own text.
Plural forms but singular meanings	Singular	Mathematics is a difficult subject.
Indicates amounts	Singular or plural, depends on sentence	None of the pollution is near my house. None of the rivers in Texas are polluted. (none=not any are) When the object of the preposition is singular, the verb is singular; when the object is plural, the verb is plural.
Relative pronoun	Singular or plural, depends on the noun it represents	The student that studies makes good grades. Students who study make good grades.
Compound subject with every, each	Singular	Every student in the class speaks . Each student wishes he were last.