

WORKSHEET 2

Using Correct Subject-Verb Agreement (Rules 2 a, b)

EXERCISE A Underline the subject in each of the following sentences. Then, underline the verb form in parentheses that agrees in number with its subject.

EXAMPLE 1. The goal of the team (comes, come) first.

1. The spring rolls, not the sour fish soup, (*appear*, *appears*) first on the menu.
2. Our supply of towels (*goes*, *go*) very fast.
3. The reasons for his success (*is*, *are*) easy to see.
4. The list of winners (*impresses*, *impress*) all of us.
5. The uses of aluminum (*is*, *are*) various.
6. This book about the rain forests (*have*, *has*) many beautiful photographs.
7. The guacamole mix together with the bowl (*costs*, *cost*) \$2.50.
8. The rivalry between the two towns (*is*, *are*) very keen.
9. Mario, along with his sisters, (*loves*, *love*) going to the Jacob Lawrence exhibit.
10. The effects of sunburn (*sneaks*, *sneak*) up on me every summer.
11. The shells on this beach (*is*, *are*) mostly small and smooth.
12. This collection of stories (*gets*, *get*) my highest recommendation.
13. Daudi, not his parents, (*buys*, *buy*) most of his school supplies.
14. The abilities of this child (*astonishes*, *astonish*) everyone.
15. A booklet with complete instructions (*comes*, *come*) with each kit.
16. The conditions in this hospital (*requires*, *require*) thorough investigation.
17. The noisy chattering of the sparrows (*wakes*, *wake*) me very early.
18. The drills in soccer (*lasts*, *last*) from one to two hours.
19. My parents, as well as my uncle, (*owns*, *own*) some Maria Martinez pottery.
20. The trees on the hillside (*prevents*, *prevent*) soil erosion.

EXERCISE B For each of the following sentences, underline the verb in parentheses that agrees in number with its subject.

EXAMPLE 1. The blue curtains (*was*, *were*) a handsome addition to the room.

1. One of our greatest traffic problems, reckless drivers, (*frustrate*, *frustrates*) even the experts.
2. Chicken pot stickers, a popular Chinese appetizer, (*taste*, *tastes*) delicious.
3. Her only source of income (*come*, *comes*) from odd jobs.
4. The only evidence of the crime (*seem*, *seems*) hard to believe.
5. The use of too many capitals (*is*, *are*) as serious a mistake as using too few.

LANGUAGE HANDBOOK **2** AGREEMENT

WORKSHEET 3

Ensuring Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns and Compound Subjects (Rules 2 c–f)

EXERCISE A Some of the following sentences contain errors in subject-verb agreement. If a sentence has an error, draw a line through the incorrect verb form and write the correct form on the line provided. If a sentence is already correct, write *C*.

- EXAMPLES have 1. Several of the tomato plants ~~has~~ new blossoms.
C 2. Both of my hamsters like to run in their wheel at night.

- _____ 1. Of course, all of the kittens in the litter need good homes.
 _____ 2. Do both of these dresses require dry cleaning?
 _____ 3. Everyone in the choir enjoy singing gospel music.
 _____ 4. Neither of the boys were on time for the yoga lesson.
 _____ 5. Several of the trees in the front yard needs pruning.
 _____ 6. Most of the dancers practices at least one hour each day.
 _____ 7. Unfortunately, none of the furniture has been shipped yet.
 _____ 8. Many of the children become drowsy during storytime.
 _____ 9. Each fall somebody at Mother’s office plan an outing to the Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque.
 _____ 10. Nothing in these boxes are of any use to us.

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, underline the verb in parentheses that agrees with its subject or subjects.

- EXAMPLE 1. Both the color print and the negative (*has, have*) been lost.
1. A short story and an excerpt of a novel by Ernest J. Gaines (*appears, appear*) in this literature collection.
 2. Every Saturday, either Chen or his sisters (*cleans, clean*) the bathroom and kitchen.
 3. Basil and oregano (*is, are*) key seasonings for this Italian dish.
 4. Tani or Elbert (*knows, know*) the way to the flea market.
 5. Neither the coach nor the players (*wants, want*) to lose another game.
 6. Red beans and rice (*is, are*) the restaurant’s most famous dish.
 7. Gabriela Sabatini and Arantxa Sanchez Vicario (*is, are*) Mimi’s favorite tennis players.
 8. Picante sauce or bean dip (*goes, go*) well with tortilla chips.
 9. Neither Leroy nor his father (*wants, want*) to ride the train all the way to Arkansas.
 10. At the end of the week, Floyd or Ruben (*takes, take*) the newspapers to the recycling center.