

SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

1) Two or more nouns joined by 'and' , takes the plural form

eg) Both Raja and Rani are good in studies

(except)When two or more noun refers to one general thing singular verb

*eg)*Bread and butter

2) When two titles/designation are connected by 'and' and used to refer to two different persons, plural verb follows

eg) The poet and philanthropist are coming for the function

(except) But if the second noun is preceded by the article 'the ' , singular verb is used because both title or designation refer to one individual

*eg)*The poet and philanthropist is coming for the function

3) The pattern "one of" is always followed by a plural noun, the verb agrees with 'one' with the plural noun

eg) One of the books is missing

(except)But occurs in the middle followed by relative pronouns like 'who', 'that', which verb is plural

*eg)*He is one of the players who have won number of medals)

4) When words are added to a singular subject by 'with', 'together with', 'along with', 'in addition 'as well as ', 'besides', etc t=the verb is singular

eg) The file, with all the papers is missing

(except)But if commas are omitted in written English, the subject is treated as plural and plural verb is used

eg) The dog along with its master are going for a walk

- 5) When two or more nouns or pronouns in the singular are connected by 'or', 'nor', 'either...or', 'neither...or' the verb is singular

eg) Neither Rosy nor her friend has come

But the subject near the verb is plural then plural verb is used

eg) Either Ram or his friends have the book

- 6) The indefinite pronouns 'each', 'every', 'eachone', 'everybody', 'anybody', 'either', 'neither', 'no one', take singular verb

eg) Each of the books is worth reading

Each boy and each girl has a story to say

- 7) Certain nouns, singular in form, are considered as plural and take the plural verb

eg) The police were forced to act

- 8) Articles consisting of two equal parts are taken as plural noun. A few words are pants, forceps, **cards**, wages, shorts, etc. When count ability is taken into account, these are to be proceeded by 'A pair of of'

eg) A pair of scissors is there

- 9) Some most of, a lot of, a great deal of, plenty of, lots of, one third of take plural verbs when they refer they refer to numbers

eg) Some of the boys are very intelligent

(except) The some nouns take the singular verb when they refer to quantity

eg) Some of the sugar is spilled

- 10) Many a' and 'more than one' are followed by singular noun and takes the singular verb

eg) Many a book is interesting

More than one candidate was absent in the meeting

(except) But many or more when used word refers to number and so take plural verb

eg) Many students were present at the function

- 11) If a sentence begins with 'a number of ' the verb is plural where if it begin ' the number of ' the verb singular

eg) A number of student are playing in the ground.

The number of students good at sports is very few.

- 12) Phrases beginning with 'a team of', 'a chain of', 'a flock of', 'a bouquet of', 'a crowd of', 'a series of', 'a set of' etc. take the singular verb though the word after them is plural.

(e.g.) A series of serials is telecast every day.

A team of ministers has come on avisit.

A regiment of soldiers is deployed for election duty.

13. Titles or names of books, quotations take the singular verb only. (e.g.)
'The Discovery Channel' gives vast information.

'Tales from Sherlock Holmes' makes reading interesting.

"Honesty is the best policy" is a saying.

14 .Certain adjectives are used with the article ‘the’ to refer to a group of people in a particular condition; The blind, The youth, The brave, The poor, The unemployed etc. take the plural verb.

(e.g) The destitute are taken care by the organization.

The brave die once.

The unemployed are restless.

The youth of today are the pillar of tomorrow.

Fill in the blanks with the correct verb that agrees with the subject

- One of my friends _____ (has, have) gone to Zambia.
- Oil and water _____ (do, does) not mix.
- She or her roommate _____ (was, were) present here.
- Everyone _____ (is, are) present.
- Pencils _____ (is, are) short.
- Bread and butter _____ (is, are) my favourite breakfast.
- Mr. Ashok, as well as his wife, _____ (is, are) a vegetarian.
- My sister, along with her two children, _____ (has, have) arrived.
- Arabian Nights _____ (is, are) an interesting book.
- Each man and each woman _____ (has, have) a vote.
- Neither he nor I _____ (has, have) money to spare for this.
- Meena, Nisha and Rita (is, are) great friends.
- Thousand rupees _____ (is, are) too much for this bag.
- There _____ (is, are) fifty benches in this room.
- The audience _____ (has been, have been) waiting for long.

