

## **Subject and Verb Agreement Worksheet**

The Subject and verb of a sentence must always agree. If the subject is singular, then equally the verb must also be singular. If the subject is plural the verb used must also be plural meaning more than one.

Examples: The Mango is ripe. / The vendor sells fruits.

### **Attempt the following exercises:**

The tree (bear, bears) fruit twice a year.

The moon (shines, shine) brightly on a dark night.

The paper (is are) new and clean.

### **Rule 2- A plural subject must agree with a plural verb.**

The pupils (travel, travels) by bus every morning.

My sisters (is are) on the netball team.

The birds (sing, sings) sweetly on the branches at dawn.

### **Rule 3-Two or more subjects joined by and take a plural verb even if each subject is singular.**

The car, the lawnmower and the washing machine are in the garage.

Examples

The ring, the watch and the chain (belong, belongs) to my mother.

The chair, the table and the board (is, are) in the classroom.

Joe, Frank and Dorothy (runs, run) around the Savannah every morning.

**Rule 4- When either /or, neither/nor join separate singular subjects use a singular verb.**

Example: Neither the dog nor the cat is awake.

When either /or, neither/nor join separate plural subjects use the plural verb form.

Examples: Neither the vegetables nor the meat products are ready to be cooked.

When one of the subjects is singular and one is plural, the verb agrees with the subject nearest to the verb.

Example: Either the apple or the pears are a tasty dessert

Neither the pears nor the apple is rotten.

Exercises:

Neither your dress nor your speech (impress, impresses) me much.

Neither James nor his friends (is, are) responsible for the damage done to the vehicle.

Either the apple pie or the bananas (is, are) good to eat.

Mother felt that neither the housekeeper nor her helpers (was, were) capable of running the home.

Either the market or the grocery shops (offer, offers) a wide range of goods.

## **Rule 5**

When a singular noun is joined by words or phrases such as **besides, together with, as well as, in addition to, with**, the verb that follows is singular.

Examples:

Alice along with her classmates, plays the piano every evening.

The boy, as well as his friends was at the show.

The man together with his family was walking in the park.

Exercise:

The man accompanied by his dog (was, were) running.

The teacher, with her class (visit visits) the library every morning.

Every morning, the farmer, with his faithful dog, (climb climbs) over the hill to reach his garden.

**Rule 6- Each, Everyone, Nobody, None, Everybody, Anybody, Every, Some, no one, somebody are called indefinite pronouns. Indefinite pronouns are singular. They take a singular verb form.**

Somebody is wearing a blue sweater.

Examples:

Each day (bring brings) a new joy in the hearts of simple people.

Nobody (is are) allowed to enter without a ticket.

Several indefinite pronouns (none all some any) take a singular refer to one person or thing.

Examples:

Some (of the clothing material) is not suitable for children.

Half (of the village) is flooded.

If the indefinite pronouns (none, all, some, any) refer to more than one thing, they take a plural verb

Example: Some (of the chapters) are very important.

Half (of the players on the team) train very diligently.

Exercise:

Some of the water (spill spills) off the truck.

Half of the group (arrives arrive) together at the stadium.

**Rule 7- The relative pronouns (who, which, that), when they refer to a singular noun, take a singular verb. When they refer to a plural noun they take a plural verb.**

Example

He read a book which was very interesting.

Exercise:

This is the boy who (delivers, deliver) the newspaper every day.

We met our new neighbour who (live, lives) next door.