

Subject and Verb Agreement

Remember:

Singular Subject = Singular Verb

Ex. The girl [singular subject] reads [singular verb] mystery stories.

Plural Subject = Plural Verb

Ex. Tonya and her friends [plural subject] are [plural verb] asleep.

Don't be confused by:

Plural words that follow the verb.

Ex. My biggest problem [singular subject] is [singular verb] the many incomplete homework assignments I need to finish.

Plural words that come between a singular subject and the verb.

Ex. The topic [singular subject] of these four books is [singular verb] horses.

Subjects that come at the end of the sentence.

Ex. Standing at the back of the room were [plural verb] my parents [plural subject].

Phrases such as along with, together with, as well as, including, in addition to.

Ex. Broccoli [singular subject], in addition to squash and all other vegetables, is [singular verb] good for you.

Indefinite pronouns.

Ex. Everybody is [singular] coming.

Ex. None of the apples are ripe (apples is plural – use a plural verb).

Nouns of amount.

Ex. Five hundred dollars is a lot of money (singular).

Ex. We have a problem: five hundred-dollar bills are missing (plural).