Subject Verb Agreement

QUICK REVIEW

| Subject | Example | Form | Usage |
|--|---|---|---|
| Compound Noun | Bread and butter, Rice and dal | Singular | Bread and butter <i>is</i> what I have for my breakfast |
| | Jack and Jim, Cheese and Oregano, | Plural | Jack and Jim <i>are</i> friends |
| Plural Nouns | A pair of Spectacles, A pair of pliers | Singular | A pair of my pants <i>is</i> missing |
| | Spectacles, Scissors, Pliers, Tweezers, Pants, Trousers, Police | Plural | My pants <i>are</i> missing |
| Collective nouns "UNISON" | Committee, Orchestra, Band, Jury, Class, Crowd, Team | Singular | The jury <i>has</i> given its verdict |
| | Members of the jury | Plural | The members of the jury <i>have</i> given their verdicts |
| Nouns ending with an 's' | Measles, Mathematics, News, Aesthetics | Singular | Economics <i>is</i> an interesting subject |
| | Assets, Earnings | Plural | Economics of the project <i>are</i> very doubtful (Financial/ Economic situation) |
| Uncountable Nouns | Sand, Air, Water, Data (Datum), Information, Machinery | Singular | Information <i>is</i> processed data. |
| Combined with Conjunctional phrases | As well as, together with, along with, as long as, in addition to | Verb takes the form of the MAIN subject to it | The politician along with his party men is participating in a rally The party men along with their leader are participating in a rally |
| Combined with Correlative conjunction "PROXIMITY RULE" | Neithernor, Eitheror Conjunction 'Or ' also follows the same rule | Verb takes the form of the subject closest to it | |

| Negative and Positive compounded subject | A, not B | Verb takes the form of POSITIVE subject | It is the chairman, not the students, who <i>decides</i> the code of conduct The students, not the teacher, <i>are</i> worried about the CA |
|---|---|---|--|
| Indefinite pronouns | SANE (Someone/Somebody, Anyone, No one, Everyone) | Singular | Everyone in this session is receptive |
| | FABS (Few, All, Both, Several) | Plural | All of you <i>are</i> receptive |
| | None, Most, Some, Half of, x% of, a third of | Both | Some points of the lecture <i>are</i> interesting Some part of the lecture <i>is</i> interesting |
| Infinitives and Gerunds | To + Verb form is infinitive To sing, to dance, to cook, to read, to listen Verb + ing form is Gerund Singing, Dancing, Cooking | Singular | To sing <i>is</i> my passion Singing <i>is</i> my passion |
| | | Plural (Compounded infinitives or gerunds) | To cook multiple cuisines and to play guitar <i>are</i> my hobbies Cooking multiple cuisines and playing guitar <i>are</i> my hobbies |
| Measurements | Time, Distance, Speed, Currency, Weight | Singular | Two days of off in the weekend <i>is</i> insufficient |
| | | | Ten kilos of rice <i>is</i> required to cook for fifty people |
| | | | 1000 kilometers <i>is</i> a very long distance |