

SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct verb forms that agree with the subject of the verb. Use the present tense wherever possible:

1. Meera _____ going to college.
2. Meera _____ going to college last year.
3. Meera _____ going to college next year.
4. Meera and Nandini _____ to college.
5. Meera and Nandini _____ going to college.
6. Meera and Nandini _____ going to college last year.
7. Meera and Nandini _____ going to college next year.
8. I _____ going for a walk.
9. You _____ going for a walk.
10. Yesterday, I _____ going for a walk.
11. Yesterday, we _____ going for a walk.
12. Bread and butter _____ a staple breakfast meal around the world.
13. Eggs and milk _____ good for health.
14. The boy and the musician _____ arrived.
15. My parents, as well as my sister, _____ coming to pick me up.
16. My sister, along with my parents, _____ coming to pick me up.
17. One of my friends _____ leaving for the US.
18. What _____ your favorite subject? My favorite subject _____ Physics.
19. Somebody _____ knocking on the door. Who _____ it?
20. Everyone _____ most welcome to our party.
21. Many people _____ waiting outside the cinema hall.
22. Many a youngster _____ dreamt of becoming a movie star.
23. These _____ interesting books.
24. He _____ the scissors on the table. The scissors _____ sharp.
25. This pair of trousers _____ faded.
26. The flock of birds _____ flying away.
27. Three committees _____ deciding what to do with the fraud case.
28. The police _____ our cooperation, and our staff _____ agreed to cooperate.
29. A number of people _____ horror films.

30. A number of birds _____ on this tree every day.
31. The number of birds on this tree _____ quite big.
32. Love _____ the key to happiness but money _____ the key to many evils.
33. All the air in the room _____ smelling of jasmine.
34. Some money _____ been stolen from my purse.
35. The percentage of people who migrate to the US from India _____ increased.
36. Thirty percent of the people living in Texas _____ Indians.

II. Choose the correct option for each blank:

1. A high tax, not to mention unemployment, _____ votes. (influence/influences)
2. Either Patty or Tom _____ asked to lead the meeting. (was/were)
3. Neither Carol nor Ted's children _____ excluded from the meeting. (is/are)
4. Neither the basket nor the apples _____ expensive. (was/were)
5. Either Maria or you _____ late for class. (was/were)
6. Either you or Maria _____ late for class. (was/were)
7. Neither of them _____ going to the show. (like/likes)
8. Each of them _____ a good seat. (has/have)
9. Everybody in the class _____ tickets. (has/have)
10. Every silver knife, fork, and spoon _____ to be counted. (has/have)

TENSES

I. Correct the tenses in the following sentences to make them meaningful and correct:

1. If the club limited its membership, it will have to raise its dues.
2. While Balu puts in his contact lenses, the telephone rang.
3. By the time negotiations began, many pessimists have expressed doubt about them.
4. I was terribly disappointed with my grade because I studied very hard.
5. Everyone hopes the plan would work.
6. Scientists predict that the sun dies in the distant future.
7. The boy insisted that he has paid for the candy bars.
8. We are waiting in line for the last two hours.
9. She will be waiting for four hours when the bus comes.
10. They are going to write the GRE exam before the term ended.

II. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense forms of the verbs given in brackets:

1. You look really great! (you, work) _____ out at the gym recently?
2. A: What (you, do) _____ when the accident occurred?
B: I (try) _____ to remove the birthday decorations.
3. I (have) _____ the same car for more than five years. I'm thinking about buying a new one.
4. A: What do you call people who work in libraries?
B: They (call) _____ librarians.
5. A: How (to be) _____ cloth made?
B: Earlier, it (weave) _____ on hand looms, but now it (be) _____ mostly made by machines.
6. I came to Bangalore six months ago. I started my engineering course three months ago. By the time I return to Hyderabad, I (study) _____ for nine months and I (be) _____ in Bangalore for exactly one year.
7. Maya (come) _____ to Delhi a week ago.
8. If Veer (keep) _____ drinking, he (lose, eventually) _____ his job.
9. The Maya established a very advanced civilization in the jungles of the Yucatan; however, their culture (disappear, virtually) _____ by the time Europeans first (arrive) _____ in the New World.
10. When I (arrive) _____ home last night, I discovered that my mother (fall) _____ asleep on the couch.
11. Shhhhhh! Be quiet! The baby (sleep) _____.
12. It (rain) _____ all week. I hope it stops by Saturday because I want to go to the beach.
13. Listen Dinesh, I don't care if you (miss) _____ the bus this morning. You (be) _____ late to work too many times. You are fired!
14. I am sick of rain and bad weather! Hopefully, when we (wake) _____ up tomorrow morning, the sun (shine) _____.
15. I (see) _____ many pictures of the pyramids before I (go) _____ to Egypt. Pictures of the monuments can be very misleading. The pyramids (to be) _____ actually quite small.
16. In the last hundred years, traveling (become) _____ much easier and very comfortable. In the 19th century, it (take) _____ two or three months to cross North America by covered wagon. The trip (be) _____ very rough and often

dangerous. Things (change) _____ a great deal in the last hundred and fifty years. Now you can (fly) _____ across the world in less than a day!

17. Joseph's English (improve, really) _____, isn't it? He (watch) _____ American television programs and (study) _____ his grammar every day since he first arrived in San Diego. Soon he (to be) _____ totally fluent.

18. "My boy _____ (leave) home five days ago. He _____ (not come back) yet," the old woman told the Police Inspector.

19. He _____ (not see) me before. So he _____ (not recognize) me.

20. I _____ (see) this film. I _____ (see) it in Hyderabad last week.

ACTIVE – PASSIVE VOICE

I. Convert the following sentences into the passive voice:

1. They make these cars in Japan. _____

2. You must not drop litter in the street. _____

3. Someone smashed our window last night. _____

4. They have already mended the TV set. _____

5. People will need public transport. _____

6. They are decorating the wall. _____

7. You should not replace the roof. _____

8. People are spending less money this year. _____

II. Make questions in passive voice.

1. A: There was a storm on the coast last night.

B: _____ ? (anything/damage)

A: Yes. Some trees fell on cars. Fortunately, nobody was killed.

B: How many cars _____ during the storm? (crush)

A: Three or four.

B: _____ ? (the trees/remove/yet)

A: Yes, they have. But the cars are still there.

B: When _____ ? (the cars/remove)

A: Tomorrow, I hope.

B: _____ ? (the cars/badly/damage)

A: Yes, they are. One of them is completely destroyed.

III. Convert the following passive voice sentences into the active voice:

1. A novel is being read by Mary = Mary _____ a novel.
2. A stone was being thrown by the kid = The kid _____ a stone.
3. A car has been bought by him = He _____ a car.
4. The door had been knocked at by someone = Someone _____ the door.
5. Yam is eaten by people in my country = People _____ yam in my country.
6. The jackpot will be won by her = She _____ the jackpot.
7. The mother tongue would be taught to him by her = She _____ him the mother tongue.
8. The fish is eaten by the cat = The cat _____ the fish.
9. A book was offered to them by her = She _____ them a book.
10. A letter was written to him by her = She _____ him a letter.

IV. Fill in the blanks with the correct form (tense and voice) of the verbs given in brackets:

In the year 122 AD, the Roman Emperor Hadrian _____ (visit) his provinces in Britain when the Roman soldiers _____ (tell) him that Pictish tribes from Britain's north _____ (attack) them. So Hadrian _____ (give) the order to build a protective wall across one of the narrowest parts of the country. After 6 years of hard work, the wall _____ (finish) in 128 AD. It _____ (be) 117 kilometers long and about 4 meters high. The Wall _____ (guard) by 15,000 Roman soldiers. Every 8 kilometers there _____ (be) a large fort in which up to a 1,000 soldiers _____ (can find) shelter. The soldiers _____ (watch) over the frontier to the north and _____ (check) the people who _____ (want) to enter or leave Roman Britain. In order to pass through the Wall, people _____ (have go) to one of the small forts that _____ (serve) as gateways. Those forts _____ (call) milecastles because the distance from one fort to another _____ (be) one Roman mile. Between the milecastles there _____ (be) two turrets from which the soldiers _____ (guard) the wall. If the wall _____ (attack) by enemies, the soldiers at the turrets _____ (run) to the nearest milecastle for help or _____ (light) a fire that _____ (can see) by the soldiers in the milecastle. In 383, Hadrian's Wall _____ (abandoned).

Today Hadrian's Wall _____ (be) the most popular tourist attraction in northern England. In 1987, it _____ (become) a UNESCO World Heritage site.

MODAL VERBS

I. Choose the correct option and fill in the blanks meaningfully:

1. "What time will you be home tonight?" "I'm not sure. I _____ late."
A. may be B. should be C. must be
2. I can't find the money. It _____ out of my pocket.
A. must have fallen B. should have fallen C. had to fall
3. We've got plenty of time. We _____ yet.
A. mustn't leave B. needn't leave C. cannot leave
4. I am sorry I _____ come to your party last week.
A. couldn't B. hadn't C. wouldn't
5. I couldn't wait for you any longer. I _____, so I went.
A. must go B. must have gone C. had to go
6. Why did you leave without me? You _____ for me.
A. should have waited B. must have waited C. can have waited
7. You look nice in that jacket. You _____ it more often.
A. better wear B. should wear C. need to
8. Shall I buy a new car? What is your advice? What _____?
A. will you do B. shall you do C. would you do
9. It looks like it will rain. _____ we leave early today?
A. Need B. Shall C. Will
10. What do you think of my theory? I'm not sure. You _____ be right.
A. may be B. can be C. ought to be

II. Fill in the blanks with *can*, *could*, *have to*, *must*, *might*, or *should*. In some blanks, there may be more than one correct answer.

1. Climbing a mountain _____ be dangerous if you are not well prepared for dramatic weather changes. You _____ research the route a little more before you attempt the ascent.
2. When you have a small child in the house, you _____ leave small objects lying around. Such objects _____ be swallowed, causing serious injury or even death.
3. Nora's new diamond ring is enormous! It _____ have cost a fortune.
4. Please make sure to water my plants while I am gone. If they don't get enough water, they _____ die.
5. I _____ speak Arabic fluently when I was a child and we lived in Egypt. But after we moved back to Canada, I lost all contact with the language. Now, I _____ just say a few things in the language.

6. Leo: Where is the spatula? It _____ be in this drawer but it's not here. Nancy: I just did a load of dishes last night and they're still in the dish washer. It _____ be in there. That's the only other place it _____ be.
7. You _____ take your umbrella along with you today. The weatherman on the news said there's a storm north of here and it _____ rain later on this afternoon.
8. Ned: _____ I borrow your lighter for a minute?
Stephen: Sure, no problem. Actually, you _____ keep it if you want to. I've given up smoking.
9. Mrs. Scarlett's body was found in the lounge just moments ago, and it's still warm! Nobody has left the mansion this evening, so the killer _____ be someone in this room. It _____ be any one of us!!!
10. I was reading the book last night before I went to bed. I never took it out of this room. It _____ be lying around here somewhere. Where _____ it be?

PREPOSITIONS

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct preposition:

1. "I'd like tea instead _____ coffee." "Oh! I thought you would prefer tea _____ coffee."
2. _____ case _____ bad weather, the trip will be postponed.
3. I would like to thank the management _____ behalf of my colleagues.
4. Is it fair to say that one must reach one's goals _____ whatever means possible.
5. As _____ me, I will be happy to sit in class for a few more hours.
6. A word of caution _____ me to you: don't count your chickens _____ they hatch.
7. _____ the tour, several questions were asked about the validity of the relics.
8. I am _____ favour _____ helping the less fortunate.
9. That whole story was a lie. He made it _____!
10. _____ addition _____ the lessening of sales, there was also the matter _____ forged documents. I request you to look _____ the matter as early as possible.
11. Ali has gone away. He'll be back _____ a month.
12. We're having a party _____ Saturday.
13. I've got an interview next week. It's _____ 1:30 pm _____ Tuesday afternoon.
14. The trains are almost always _____ time.
15. Leena's birthday is _____ the end of March.
16. I saw her _____ Friday, but I have not seen her _____ then.
17. We're staying with some friends _____ the moment. We're staying _____ Friday _____ Tuesday.
18. I'm going out for a bit. I'll be back _____ ten minutes.

19. I'd love to visit every country _____ the world.
20. Preethi is away from Hyderabad. She is _____ holiday.
21. Mozart died _____ Vienna _____ 1791 _____ the age of 35.
22. We went _____ the theater last Friday. We had seats _____ the front row.
23. I couldn't decide what to eat. I didn't like anything _____ the menu.
24. Anna worked _____ two years _____ London before returning _____ India.
25. I work _____ the Communications department.
26. The plan has changed, but nobody seems to know the reason _____ this.
27. Paul is an amateur photographer. He likes taking pictures _____ people.
28. Mohan got married _____ a girl he met in college.
29. The guidebook is full _____ useful information.
30. Who will look _____ the children when you go _____ work?
31. The river divides the city _____ two parts.
32. Have you been _____ Madrid? No, I have never heard _____ it.
33. I apologized _____ Sarah _____ my bad behavior.
34. I asked _____ money when I couldn't pay _____ the new table.
35. She is very brave; she is not afraid _____ anything.
36. Our flat is _____ the fifth floor.
37. What's _____ TV today?
38. The Godavari flows _____ some parts of South India.
39. The mother cradled the baby _____ her arms.
40. I am interested _____ learning more about quantum mechanics.
41. The pencil rolled _____ the desk.
42. The mouse ran quickly _____ the hallway's edge.
43. The strange noises are coming _____ that house.
44. The cat is hiding _____ the stairs.
45. The car won't fit _____ the parking space.

Phrasal Verbs

I. Use the following verbs (believe, fill, get, look, put, switch, take, throw, turn, try) and the prepositions (away, down, for, in, off, on, out) and form meaningful sentences.

1. Quick! _____ the bus. It's ready to leave.

2. I don't know where my book is. I have to _____ it.
3. It's dark inside. Can you _____ the light, please?
4. _____ the form, please.
5. I need some new clothes. Why don't you _____ these jeans?
6. It's warm inside. _____ your coat.
7. This pencil is really old. You can _____ it.
8. It's so loud here. Can you _____ the radio a little.
9. The firemen were able to _____ the fire in Church Street.
10. Does your little brother _____ ghosts?

II. Complete the phrasal verbs according to their meanings in brackets.

1. _____ your shoes. (Remove)
2. Somebody has to _____ the baby. (Take care of)
3. She wants to _____ the truth. (Discover)
4. Where can I _____ the sweater? (See if it fits)
5. _____. (be quick)
6. Why don't you _____? (Take a seat)
7. The firemen _____ the fire. (Extinguish)
8. _____ the word in a dictionary. (Consult a dictionary)

CONJUNCTIONS AND LINKERS

I. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate linker:

1. _____ all the students had arrived, we started the weekly revision test.
A As soon B Once C As long as D No sooner
2. You will be able to get into the cinema _____ you arrive before the film starts.
A so that B no sooner C as long as D as if
3. _____ the large amount of food at the party, Sonali couldn't find anything she wanted to eat.
A Due to B Despite C In spite D Although

4. At one point in the lesson it looked _____ the teacher was going to give us some chocolate but then he took the chocolate away at the end of the lesson.

A in case B as long as C as soon as D as if

5. Peter decided to pay extra for a flat near the school, _____ have to walk a many miles every morning from a cheaper but more distant location.

A in case B likewise C rather than D instead of

6. In England we have short daylight hours in winter and very long daylight hours in summer _____ the days are always the same length in Singapore.

A although B as if C rather than D whereas

7. Our teacher always brings a bar of chocolate to class on test days _____ one of the students gets one hundred percent.

A as soon as B although C in case D unless

8. _____ the large number of mistakes in the question paper, the students were unable to complete the exam.

A Because B Whereas C Due to D subsequently

9. _____ study for his exams, Alberto decided to invent a new method of cheating.

A consequently B besides C in a nutshell D rather than

10. The police raided the hideout and found twelve bars of gold _____ several silver ornaments. _____ other investigators also discovered semi-precious gems, but that was only five years later

A as long as B subsequently C on the other hand D as well as E instead

II. Rewrite the following paragraphs using appropriate conjunctions and linkers. At some places, you may be able to combine two or three sentences into one sentence. However, the aim of the exercise is to use linkers to make the relation between the sentences clearer:

1. He rose from humble origins. He went on to become one of the most influential men in the world. He entered the world of business and earned millions. He worked tirelessly for the downtrodden. His competitors don't know whether to hate him for his ruthlessness in business. His competitors don't know whether to love him for his philanthropy.

2. Piranhas have a bad reputation. They have long, sharp teeth. They have a voracious appetite for meat. Most species of piranha are found in South America. Some species are also found in the US. Some

piranha eat meat. Some piranha eat fruits. Movies show piranha as evil creatures. We will continue to call them the monsters of freshwater bodies.

III. Join each of the following sets of sentences into one sentence:

1. A cat bit me. It was brown in color. It had sharp teeth.

2. I am reading a book at the moment. It is very interesting.

3. This is a beautiful garden. Many varieties of flowers are grown here.

4. This is the old man. He built the first mill in the town. The town is now very prosperous.

5. The football match was very exciting. My friend played in it.

6. The letter hasn't arrived yet. I posted it five days ago.

7. We ate dinner. Then we watched a movie.

8. Jane wore a beautiful dress yesterday. Did you see it?

9. Sarita won the contest. Smitha won the contest.

10. They went shopping. They finished all the work at home.

11. It was raining heavily. We all came to class.

12. I missed my bus. I am late for class.

ARTICLES

I. Fill in the blanks with appropriate articles where required:

1. I have _____ aunt who lives in _____ home for _____ elderly. She is _____ honest woman. She used to be _____ FBI agent. She has many interesting stories. She told me that she once met _____ alien from _____ space. This alien didn't need _____ oxygen to live; it didn't have _____ nose. That's _____ hard story to believe. I'm not sure she was telling me _____ truth. Maybe she isn't so honest, after all.
2. _____ stress can make _____ life unpleasant. _____ people John works with are busy, and _____ work they do isn't easy. When he drives to _____ work, usually _____ highways are really busy. If there's _____ accident at that time, it can be _____ chaos on the roads.
3. I don't watch _____ TV. I get _____ information and _____ news from _____ Internet. I don't often go to _____ cinema, either. I'm interested in _____ finance.
4. I like Japan. _____ crime is quite low there. When I fly to Japan, I usually fly to _____ Narita Airport. The last time I was in Japan, I climbed _____ Mount Fuji. It was fun. I am tall. _____ Japanese are generally shorter than I am.
5. _____ term 'holocaust' refers specially to _____ Nazi persecution of _____ Jews.
6. _____ modern sport of weightlifting dates from _____ late 19th century.
7. _____ former minister, who was removed from power by _____ army only three weeks after winning _____ general election, has promised to redeem himself.
8. _____ tennis is my favorite sport. I play it once or twice _____ week if I can, but I'm not _____ very good player.

II. Complete the following exercise using a/an/the/0 (no article) in the underlined spaces where appropriate. Change capital letters to lower case letters at the beginning of a sentence if necessary.

Ms Parrot, (1) _____ most famous lady detective of (2) _____ twenty-first century, was born in (3) _____ United Kingdom in (4) _____ 1960s. Since then, she has been to many countries, including (5) _____ Portugal, Singapore and Australia, and has lived in (6) _____ northern hemisphere and (7) _____ southern hemisphere, as well as on (8) _____ equator. She has never been to (9) _____ Philippines or (10) _____ United States, but she speaks (11) _____ English, French and Portuguese. Like Sherlock Holmes, (12) _____ famous detective, she plays (13) _____ violin, and sometimes practises up to five times (14) _____ day. She has been (18) _____ detective for thirty years and claims that although many people think that being (19) _____ detective is (20) _____ piece of cake, detectives generally work very hard and it's not all fun and games. (21) _____ detective is someone who solves mysteries, and (22)

_____ people who contact Ms Parrot have some very unusual problems. Little information is available about some of (23) _____ cases she has solved, but quite (24) _____ few of her most famous cases have attracted worldwide attention.

PARALLEL STRUCTURES

1. Rewrite the following sentences to make them parallel structures:

1. Let me give you some advice: keep your friends close and keeping your enemies closer is a good policy.

2. Mili's day is so long that she wakes up early, is eating her breakfast quick, and goes off to school by 7:00 am.

3. Flying geese are known for their neat ranks, orderly flight, and for loudly making noises.

4. Brij was not only Sai's roommate but he was also his close friend.

5. I spent two hours with the HR manager, reviewing my job performance, evaluating my goals, and my future with the company was also discussed.

6. The pet trainer told us that the dog needs to be fed, cleaned, and the vet needs to check them regularly.

7. Bicycles, motorcycles, and driving a car are not equally dangerous on the road.

8. At the car repair shop, the car was sanded to the bare metal, painted with primer, and green paint was sprayed on.

ERROR CORRECTION

1. Correct the errors in the following sentences:

1. My mother which is a librarian loves books.

2. Although he is going to the campus, but he is not going to find any of his friends.
3. I don't like tea, too.
4. This is so difficult problem. I won't not solve it.
5. We often push we into tight corners by making hasty decisions.
6. Where is the book where I got for my birthday?
7. Looking after pets are a good way to teach children responsibility.
8. All children wants toys but many a children wants only a toy that another have.

II. Choose the correct option from the underlined parts to make these sentences correct. In case there is no problem with the sentence, choose "No error":

1. The (A) bright fiberglass sculptures of Ai Weiwei (B) has received critical acclaim (C) not only in the West, but also (D) in his own country. No error
2. If (A) one expects to solve complex problems in mathematics, you must have (B) a basic understanding of the subject, (C) even if you are using (D) a calculator. No error
3. (A) Since (B) there is two pencils, a pad of paper and a ruler on each desk, students (C) do not have to bring (D) their own supplies. No error
4. Each time Cathy turns on her computer, she (A) has to enter a company code, then her initials, and then (B) enters a password (C) before she (D) can begin working. No error
5. Air pollution caused by industrial fumes (A) has been studied for years, (B) but only recently (C) has the harmful effects of noise pollution (D) become known. No error
6. The starling is (A) such a pest in (B) many a rural household that it has become necessary (C) to find ways of controlling the growth (D) of their population. No error
7. Arrowheads (A) found in the region extending from the Nile Valley (B) to the highlands of eastern Iraq (C) attests to the presence of people there (D) as long ago as a hundred thousand years. No error
8. Jerome often referred (A) to art history books (B) while he was painting; whenever he learned a new method in art class, he (C) seeks out the work of painters who (D) had used it in the past. No error
9. Neither the koala bear (A) or the red panda (B) belongs to the bear family; the former is (C) a marsupial and the latter (D) is thought to be related to the raccoon family. No error
10. Before (A) boarding, passengers must purchase (B) his or her tickets (C) at the counter because tickets are not sold (D) on the bus. No error