

ছেলেদের মধ্যে একজন অসুস্থ ছিল—*One of the boys was ill.*

(*not were*)

প্রত্যেকটি মেয়েই চালাক—*Each of the girls is clever. (not are)*

প্রতিটি ইদুরকে একটি পিঠে দেওয়া হয়েছিল—*Each of the rats was*

given a cake. (not were)

এই বইগুলির মধ্যে একটি চুরি হয়েছে—*Either of the books is stolen. (not is)*

কোনো বইটিই চিত্তাকর্ষক ছিল না—*Neither of the books was interesting. (not were)*

কমলালেবুগুলির মান ভালো নয়—*The quality of the oranges is not good. (not are)*

Note : After 'None' and 'None but' we can use either a singular or a plural verb.
'None of the pupils has/have failed the test.'

—Eastwood

"None is a shortened form of *not one*; yet it is commonly used with plural verbs."

—Wren & Martin

"None of them *has (have)* come back yet."

"None but the brave *deserves* the fair."

—A.L.D. Hornby

"None but fools *(has) have* ever believed it."—COD [Also, Wren & Martin]

—Shakespeare.

'More than one' takes a singular verb; but 'More than two/three or more' takes a plural verb.

('More than one' singular verb নেয়; কিন্তু 'More than two/three ইত্যাদি plural verb নেয়।)
More than one boy is guilty. [But] More than two boys are guilty.

Some Notes from 'Modern English Usage' by Fowler and 'Current English Usage' by F. T. Wood.

(a) 'More than one' is treated as compound of one and agrees with a singular noun and a singular verb. But, 'More than two' is treated as a compound of two and agrees with a plural noun and a plural verb.
More than one man was present there.
More than two men were present there.

(b) Half, heaps, lots, two-thirds, three-fourths etc. take singular verbs when they are followed by singular nouns with 'of' but plural verbs when followed by plural nouns with 'of' :
One-fourth water is mixed with three-fourth milk. Half of the work is done. Half of the apples are bad. There is lots of work to do. Lots of people think so.

(c) After one and a half we use plural nouns and singular verbs : One and a half lemons was enough.

(d) The greater/greatest part is singular when it refers to amount or quantity, plural when it refers to number.
The greater part of the land is uncultivated.
The greater part of the apples are bad.—F. T. Wood

(e) None—"It is a mistake to suppose that the pronoun (None) is singular only and must at all costs be followed by singular verbs, etc. The Oxford Dictionary explicitly states that plural construction is commoner."

None of the letters have been opened yet. (Plural, because, none has the meaning 'not any').

—MEU by Fowler

—CEU by F. T. Wood

