

Task 5.

1. Subject-verb agreement.

Standard English used in formal texts requires the choice of the “-s” form of the verb, if the subject is singular. Failing to observe this rule is a frequent problem in complex sentences, though. Go through the following sentences and revise the verb forms if needed. Some sentences do not need any modifications.

1. Foods that are rich in vitamins are generally considered beneficial to the immune system.
2. Statistics from recent research suggest that the discussed phenomenon cannot be ignored.
3. Either the students or the tutor were not informed about the meeting.
4. Enclosed with this letter are a set of documents.
5. Since each of the methods in your research area seems valid, you should choose the least labor-intensive one.
6. The Dean of the Faculty together with the Faculty Senate members is coming.
7. A series of aftershocks usually follow huge earthquakes.
8. Cracks on the surface is one sign of excessive material wear.
9. Studying both mechatronics and computer technology is a key to success in the job market.
10. *Popular Mechanics* are the name of an engineering journal that presents interesting research.
11. Three quarters of a ton are not enough to perform a complete test cycle.
12. A new species of algae that were discovered last month may revolutionize the biofuel industry.
13. *Finley and Sons* is known for manufacturing best quality gauges.

2. Pronoun-antecedent agreement.

The same thing goes for the pronouns and the (usually preceding) nouns they refer to. Look at the sentences below and correct them by modifying any necessary words. Avoid sexist choices like for instance the generic *he*.

1. Its importance being critical, the pipes carrying liquid nitrogen for refrigeration purposes were installed on support structures made of invar.
2. Probably each student at Wroclaw University of Science and Technology hopes that one day he will be offered a research grant at MIT.
3. Prof. Smith’s research, which goal is to find a method for stem cell reproduction, has been recently recognized by the Nobel Prize Committee.
4. The Committee, which are mostly in favor of changes, must agree on their decisions by April.
5. Half of the students that enrolled in the *Robotics101* course are now pursuing his or her careers in heavy industry.
6. Not a single person on the panel decided to offer her real opinions.
7. Neither Prof. Steve Jones nor Prof. Jerry Wright scheduled his/her exam on this day.

Dictionary:

(please find) enclosed - used for saying that you have sent something with a letter

academic journal – a magazine that deals with a particular subject or profession

critical – here: very important

recognize - to accept that something is true or important