

Module 2

Lesson 7

Subject-Verb Agreement

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Subject- Verb Agreement

Definition: Subject-verb agreement refers to the relationship existing between the subject and the verb in the sentence.

A singular subject requires a singular verb. A plural subject requires a plural verb.

General Rule in Subject- Verb Agreement

Singular subjects go with singular verbs, and plural subjects go with plural verbs

Please read Notes on Rules in Subject- Verb Agreement for more detailed rules

Subject- Verb Agreement

1. A singular subject requires a singular verb.

A singular verb in the present tense is formed by adding –s or –es to the base form

Example:

- **Lucia** bake**s** delicious chocolate chip cookies.
- The congressman veto**es** the controversial bill.

*See notes for subjects classified as singular.

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2. A plural subject requires a plural verb.

- Most plural subjects are formed by adding –s or –es to the base word. The verb form in the present tense is the base form of the verb.

- The hunting **dogs** chase the fleeing deer.

- Tomato**es** abound during summer months.

- Nouns ending in –y usually change –y to –i before adding the –es as a plural signal

- The **stories** about fairies interest the little kids very much.

- Bangus **bellies** thicken with stored fish oil.

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- Words derived from foreign languages such as Greek or Latin may retain their plural forms.
 - The **criteria** (criterion-singular) for this contest are posted in the Intranet.
 - Those heavenly **phenomena** (phenomenon-singular) baffle the scientists.
- Personal and demonstrative pronouns have different plural forms from their singular forms.
 - I (singular) – We (plural); He, she, It (singular)- they (plural)
 - this (singular)- these (plural); that(singular)- those plural

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- **We** are reviewing our notes in English.
 - **They** prefer to sit in the back row.
 - The mangoes are sweet. **These** come from Guimaras.
 - Did you see the big snails? **Those** are a delicacy in France.
- *See notes for subjects classified as plural.

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A common cause of errors are the intervening words. Intervening words are words found between the subject and the verb. They don't in any way affect the agreement between the subject and the verb. The most common of intervening words are composed of prepositional phrases.

- **One** of the athletes sprains his knee during the scrimmage.

The word “athletes” could be mistaken for subject of the sentence. It is an object of the preposition “of” and can't be used as a subject.

Subject -Verb Agreement

Let's practice

Subject- Verb Agreement

If the underlined verb agrees with the subject, write C as your answer. If it doesn't, write the correct verb that will agree with the subject.

- 1) The children watches a horror movie.
- 2) The zipper of this pair of pants needs to be repaired.
- 3) Real Madrid battles Juventus today.
- 4) Cheese and butter are the main ingredients for these cookies.

Subject- Verb Agreement

5. Please choose another pair of shorts.

These is already sold.

6. The spokesman for the players call for a forum.

7. The barangay chairman, preceding his subordinates, conduct a house- to- house campaign for cleanliness.

8. How happy are you today?

9. That abscess in your leg requires medical treatment

Subject-Verb Agreement

If you got a score of 5 or less in the practice exercise, please review the notes on Subject-Verb Agreement before taking the quiz.

Please look over the uploaded “Notes on Subject-Verb Agreement” notes in Quia and check whether there are other facts you need to include in your Cheat Sheet.

Subject- Verb Agreement

If the underlined verb agrees with the subject, write C as your answer. If it doesn't, write the correct verb that will agree with the subject.

- 1) The children watches a horror movie. **watch**
- 2) The zipper of this pair of pants needs to be repaired. **C**
- 3) Real Madrid battles Juventus today. **battle**
- 4) Cheese and butter are the main ingredients for these cookies. **C**

Subject- Verb Agreement

5. Please choose another pair of shorts.

These is already sold. **are sold**

6. The spokesman for the players call for a forum. **calls**

7. The baranggay chairman, preceding his subordinates, conduct a house- to- house campaign for cleanliness. **conducts**

8. How happy are you today? **C**

9. That abscess in your leg requires medical treatment **C**

Module 2, Lesson 7: Subject-Verb Agreement Quiz

1. Please proceed to [www. Quia.com/web](http://www.Quia.com/web)
2. On the space provided, enter your log in name and your password.
3. Under “Quiz”, please select, Module 2 Lesson 7, Quiz 1
4. Follow the instructions in the quiz.
5. Follow these same steps when you go to succeeding quizzes after every lesson.

