



# RBI Grade B English Lecture 2



## Subject-Verb Agreement



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Owner - verb

# Subject–Verb Agreement

## 1. Key note:-

Universal rule:-

" If Subject Singular → Verb Singular  
If Subject Plural → Verb Plural . "



Key note:-

→ Rohit ~~play~~ / plays Cricket.  
→ Boys ~~play~~ / ~~plays~~ Cricket.  
Subject + (V<sub>1</sub>)

1<sup>st</sup> (I) → (V<sub>1</sub>) + play / drive / eat / do / cry / go

2<sup>nd</sup> plural → (V<sub>1</sub>) + play / drive / eat / do / cry / go  
We / You / They / Boys / Girls

3<sup>rd</sup> Singular → (V<sub>1</sub> + s/es/ies) + plays / drives / eats / does / cries / goes  
He / She / It / Boy / Girl



# 1. A verb agrees with its subject in person and in number.

Wrong: They doesn't understand what to do.

Right: They don't understand what to do.

# Identify the subject, decide the verb accordingly.

<u>People</u> → are	"players" → are
<u>Crowd</u> → is	"team" → is
<u>Spectators</u> → are	"Employees" → are
<u>Audience</u> → is	"staff" → is



2. When the subject and predicate nominative differ in number, the verb must agree with the subject not the complement.



Wrong: The theme of the essay are the experiences of our heroes. ✗

Right: The theme of the essay is the experiences of our heroes. ✓

The rise "of" Mughals was/were recorded around 500 AD.  
The rules of this sport is/are quite confusing.  
The population of Indians is/are growing exponentially.  
The residents of the locality has/have lodged a complaint.



3. Compound subject joined by “and” ordinarily take the plural form of the verb.



Wrong: India along with Russia are close friends.

Right: India along with Russia is close friends with Israel

- The PM with the Cabinet ministers ~~was/were~~ present in Delhi.
- She together with her friends ~~has/have~~ gone to the Mall.
- India along with its friendly nations ~~has/have~~ approached UNO.
- India and its friendly nations have approached UNO.
- The PM and the Cabinet members ~~was/were~~ present in Delhi.



4. Intervening phrases introduced by with, together with, as well as, including, besides, no less than, in addition to, accompanied by, not, do not affect the form of the verb.

Wrong: The teacher together with her pupils were there. ✗

Right: The teacher together with her pupils was there. ✓



5. The number of noun in phrase introduced by the preposition "of" does not affect the number of verb.

Wrong: A list of books were made by Merry. ✗

Right: A list of books was made by Merry. ✓

S This kind of clothes is ~~is~~ very expensive.  
The mob of angry protesters has ~~the~~ ordered for closing of the shops.



6. **Two singular subjects joined only by 'or' or 'nor' will take a singular verb.**

A doctor or a nurse is working in the hospital.

But,

**A singular subject and a plural subject joined by 'or', 'either-or', 'neither- nor', 'not only - but also'; will take a singular or plural verb depending on, which subject is near the verb:**

Neither Deepak nor his friends are joining the tour.

Neither his friends nor Deepak is joining the tour.

Wrong: Not only the students but also the teacher are learning. ✗

Right: Not only the students but also the teacher is learning. ✓



7. The following indefinite pronoun, whether singular or plural in meaning are used with the singular form of the verb: each, everybody, everyone, everything, any, anybody, anything, somebody, someone, something, one, thing, nobody, either, neither, the other.

Each arrives on time.

Everything is in order.

Each "of" the members of the committee was present.

Everyone / Everybody / Everything

Someone / Somebody / Something

No one / No body / Nothing

Anyone / Anybody / Anything

(Verb will + always be "singular")

\* One 'of' my friends is late going abroad.

Any human being can tell this is wrong.

Every person has moral responsibilities.



8. Non – finite pronouns such as "some, all, none, part, majority, remainder, percentage, fraction, most, rest" decide the verb depending on the following subject.

Some "of" the food ~~was~~ is left.  
All of the work ~~is~~ is done.  
None of the players ~~is~~ are absent.  
Part of the spectators ~~has~~ have left the stadium.  
Majority of the countries ~~is~~ are world is ~~is~~ are on our side.  
Remainder  
Percentage (10%, 20%) 10% of the land was acquired.  
Fraction ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ,  $\frac{2}{3}$ ) 10% of the cases are still pending.  
Most of Us ~~has~~ have given our consent.  
Rest of the Jury ~~is~~ is not decisive.

9. The expression "the number of" takes a singular form of verb, while the expression "a number of takes" a plural form of verb.

The number of students in the class is limited.

A number of books are on reserved in the library.

⇒ "A number of" students ~~has~~ have appeared today.  
→ "The number of" students appearing today is ~~are~~ 20k.



10. The number of the subject of a sentence introduced by there determines the verb to be used.



Demonstrative!

There is no one in the room.

There are times when she is lonely.

There are six school days in a week.

There was someone at the door.



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11. The verb takes an s/es/ies when it is used in the third person singular of the present tense.

Ramen Loyd plays football vigorously.

She works really hard.

They play really well.

You work diligently.

Singular +  
Nouns/  
Pro nouns  
V + s/es/ies



Key note:-

Identify the Subject and verb  
should agree with the Subject.



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**PYQ - 2022 –**

**Direction: Read the following sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number corresponding to that part will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct as it is, mark the answer as ‘No error’. Ignore the errors of punctuation if any.**

Q. Political action groups lay (1)/ in wait for companies that stumble (2)/ in its conduct and treatment (3)/ of multiple stakeholders. (4)

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4
- E. No error



**PYQ - 2022 –**

**Direction: Read the following sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number corresponding to that part will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct as it is, mark the answer as 'No error'. Ignore the errors of punctuation if any.**

Q. Every kaleidoscopic elements (1)/ merged together beautifully to create (2)/ the most delightful (3)/ and unique East Lindsey market town. (4)

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4
- E. No error



**PYQ – 2021 -**

**Each question contains three statements, one or more of which may not be grammatically correct. You are required to identify the incorrect statements from the options given below and mark that as your answer.**

Q.)

I. The IMF has pressed Pakistan to improve tax revenue collection.

II. Pakistani rupee had depreciated by 30 percent against the U.S. dollar.

III. Pakistan's credit rating was downgraded by S&P, which cited diminished growth prospects.

[a] Only II

[b] Only I and II

[c] Only II and III

[d] Only III

[e] All are correct



**PYQ – 2018 -**

**Q. Direction:** In the given question, a sentence is divided into four parts. There are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark E, i.e. 'All are correct' as the answer.

The roof besides them had a (A) huge hole smashed through it, (B)/ and pieces of glass was lying (C)/ scattered on every direction. (D)

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. All are correct



**PYQ – 2018 -**

**Q. Direction: In the given question, a sentence is divided into four parts. There are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark E, i.e. 'All are correct' as the answer.**

Aside from his solemn expression, (A)/ there were nothing in the way he acted (B)/ with the children that might indicate (C)/ anything was wrong among them. (D)

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. All are correct



**PYQ – 2018 -**

**Q. Direction: In the given question, a sentence is divided into four parts. There are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark E, i.e. 'All are correct' as the answer.**

The number of acres (A)/ destroyed by wildfires (B)/ has increased dramatically (C)/ over the past several years. (D)

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. All are correct



*Thank You*

**For More Info Contact us:**

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