

SUBJECT and VERB Agreement**S+V/ Complete Thought (.)**

SINGULAR	
Noun	Verb
The girl	(Be) is (need) needs
PLURAL	
The girls	Are / need

Forms of the verbs:

SINGULAR	PLURAL
Verb: +s	Verb
Be: is/was	are/were
Have: has	have
Do: does	do

KNOW !

1) noun and (+) noun plural verb

Annie **and** her brothers (is, **are**) at school.

2) noun or/but/yet/nor (-) noun verb agrees with the noun next to it

the girl **or** the boys **are**

the boys **or** the girl **is**

The dog **or** the cats (is, **are**) outside.

3) either / neither verb is singular

Either **is** fine!

Either answer (is, are) acceptable.

Either..... **or**..... verb agrees with the noun next to it

Neither..... **nor** verb agrees with the noun next to it

Neither the teacher **nor** her **students** (is/**are**) coming today.

* NOTE: **Is** (not are) **the teacher** **or** her students coming today?

Either my shoes **or** your **coat** (**is**, are) always on the floor.

4) Noun with/ as well as/ together with/ including/....., Noun Verb agrees 1 Noun

The mother with her 3 boys (is/ are) crossing the street.

The **man with** all the birds (live, **lives**) on my street.

The **movie, including** all the previews, (take, **takes**) about two hours to watch.

The **players, as well as** the captain, (**want**, wants) to win.

The **Prime Minister, together** with his wife, (**greet**, greets) the press cordially.

All of the **CDs**, even the scratched one, (is, **are**) in this case.

5) Each of + Noun Verb agrees with the pronouns

Every

One (someone/ no one/ everyone)

Body (somebody/ nobody/ anybody)

Each of the students (**is/are**)

S.....Noun +V

Every one of those books (**is**, are) fiction.

Nobody (know, **knows**) the trouble I've seen.

One of my sisters (**is**, are) going on a trip to France.

BUT:

6) All of + Noun verb agrees with the noun next to it.

Some

$\frac{3}{4}$

%

All of the **students** (is/**are**) coming.

All of the **water** (is/**are**) dirty.

All / Some of my **friends** are

All / some of the **water** is

7) INVERTED SUBJECTS (usually S+V but V+S) words showing place, time, price are brought up to the beginning of the sent. (in subject's place), and the subject is after the verb.

Here Verb + Subject

There

There (is/are) 9 students in this Zoom class.

There (was, were) fifteen candies in that bag. Now there (is, are) only one left!

Tomorrow (is/are) the day of my graduation.

My graduation day (is/ are) tomorrow.

Eight dollars (is/ are) the price of the ticket.

The price of the ticket is eight dollars.

8) NOUNS

a) Nouns that end with –s (-s is not plural) Verb is singular

Mathematics is my fav. subject

b) Nouns that are composed of 2 parts have –s ending and HAVE plural form (and are used with plural verb) even though they are 1.

Pants (1 pants/ 10 pants) / trousers

Glasses/ shades

Sleeves/ gloves

Shoes

Tweezers/ scissors

Scales

(Is, Are) the tweezers in this drawer?

Your pants (is, are) at the cleaner's.

My pants are black (I am wearing 1 pants not many)

BUT: The pair of the pants (is/are) black.

c) KNOW THE IRREGULAR forms of Noun

Syllabus (is/are), but Syllabi (is/are)

Datum is / data are

Man is / Men - are

9) UNCOUNTABLE (never take -s)/ COLLECTIVE NOUNS - Verb is Singular

news

hair

liquids (water/ juice)

knowledge

*****But** ides (ideas)

advice

information

fruit/ fish

luggage/ baggage

anger/ love/ devotion

COLLECTIVE NOUNS - Verb is Singular (if action is done together/ consider the noun as 1 chunk not as many members in it)

crew

team

group

family

crowd

stuff

staff

unit

committee

population **is** (singular)

*****But** people (plural) **are**

choir

couple

The **family** of four **(is/are)** travelling to Moscow.

BUT: When the collective noun shows an action done separately (different time) then the Verb is PLURAL

The **family (is/are)** travelling to Moscow.

The **family** (is/are) travelling to Moscow **at different days**.

The **family** of four (is/are) having dinner **separately at their** best time.

The **committee** (debates, debate) these questions carefully.

The **committee** (leads, **lead**) very different lives in private.

The **team** (is/ are) **winning** the game.

The **team** (is / **are**) **coming** from **different** parts of the world.

SO, again REMEMBER:

Collective nouns are seen as 1 chunk **IF** the parts/ members inside that chunk do the action **TOGETHER** – **singular verb**

Collective nouns are seen as 1 chunk **BUT IF** the parts/ members inside that chunk do the action **SEPARATELY/ DIFFERENTLY** – **plural verb**

TEST Question:

- One-third of **the city** is unemployed, while half of **the employed** **have** quit their search for work.
- One-third of the city **are** unemployed, while half of the employed **have** quit their search for work.
- One-third of the city **is** unemployed, while half of **the employed** **has** quit their search for work.
- One-third of the city **are** unemployed, while half of the employed **has** quit their search for work.

Reasoning how to find the correct answer:

- One-third** (1/3)- is a fraction, so consider **the city** to agree with the verb
- So, eliminate b and d
- Half** (1/2) is a fraction, so consider “the employed” to agree with the verb
- “the employed” is a **collective noun** **BUT** the action all the unemployed (people) are doing is not done at the same time together, **so we will need PLURAL verb**
- Answer: a is correct**