

## Subject-Verb Agreement 2



*Subject-verb agreement means that your verb forms match the subject. We typically know what form of the verb to choose (“I am” not “I is” for 1<sup>st</sup> person singular and “He is” not “He are”), but there are a number of circumstances in which it is harder to tell whether the subject is first person or third, singular or plural.*

- Begin by reviewing the correct forms of the verb “to be”:

	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Person</b> <b>(I, We)</b>	I _____ an RCC student.	We _____ RCC students.
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Person</b> <b>(You)</b>	You _____ an RCC student.	All of you _____ RCC students.
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Person</b> <b>(He, She, It, They)</b>	John _____ an RCC student.	John & Karen _____ RCC students.
	Karen _____ an RCC student.	They _____ RCC students.

- If you have trouble *finding* verbs in a sentence, start by reading the fabulous explanation at <http://chompchomp.com/terms/verb.htm>
  - Before moving on, make sure you know how to spot the following:
    - When is the word **crunch** a noun? When is it an adjective? When is it a verb?
    - What is the difference between an action verb and a linking verb?
    - How can you find “helping” or “auxiliary” verbs?
  - Can you answer those questions? Good, now you’re ready!
- Go to <http://chompchomp.com>, select “Exercises” from the main menu, and select “Subject-Verb Agreement: Exercise 5” (or <http://chompchomp.com/hotpotatoes/sva05.htm>).
- Do the exercise, noting your answers on the handout attached to this DLA. Mark which ones you got incorrect and review them with an instructor on duty.



**Attach a confirmation sheet or get an instructor on duty/WRC tutor signature below:**

*Continued on the next page...*

This handout accompanies Exercise 5 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

**Directions:** Choose the correct *present tense* verb form for the sentences below.

1. The dead trees and peeling paint, along with the broken windows and flapping shutters, \_\_\_\_\_ everyone believe that evil spirits haunt the deserted Sinclair house.

- A. made
- B. has made
- C. makes
- D. make

2. Where \_\_\_\_\_ the earrings that I left by the bathroom sink? Oh no! That stupid cat has swatted them down the drain again!

- A. was
- B. were
- C. is
- D. are

3. Neither of those sharks circling your boogie board \_\_\_\_\_ hungry enough to bite.

- A. looks
- B. look
- C. looked
- D. had looked

4. One hundred and fifty gallons \_\_\_\_\_ the amount of liquid the average living room rug can absorb. Rachel discovered this fact after taking a long shower when the curtain wasn't tucked inside the tub.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. was
- D. were

5. Agnes never loses a single possession. Everyone knows what belongs to her, for each pen, pencil, and paperclip \_\_\_\_\_ a tiny flag attached with Agnes' full name on it.

- A. will have
- B. has
- C. have
- D. had

6. Asteroids and comets slamming into Earth \_\_\_\_\_ Marge; she tries to remain under the protective cover of her roof as much as possible.

- A. worries
- B. worry
- C. worried
- D. used to worry

7. Someone—perhaps Emmanuel or Paul—\_\_\_\_\_ the right wine to serve with earthworm lasagna.

- A. knew
- B. will know
- C. knows
- D. know

8. These scissors \_\_\_\_\_ so dull that I'm not sure you could slice butter with them!

- A. is
- B. are
- C. has been
- D. had been

9. Physics \_\_\_\_\_ proven to be Jerry's easiest subject this semester. He brings Carol, the lab assistant, an oatmeal-raisin cookie, and, as his reward, she finishes his report.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. had
- D. will have

10. The good jewelry Dad gave Sara for graduation \_\_\_\_\_ more than the cheap leather wallet that David got as his reward for finishing high school.

- A. costs
- B. cost
- C. will cost
- D. had cost

11. At Wendy's Washateria, all of the dryers \_\_\_\_\_ six quarters before spinning wet clothes dry.

- A. gobbles
- B. gobble
- C. gobbled
- D. will gobble

12. At Wendy's Washateria, each of the industrial washing machines \_\_\_\_\_ so forcefully during the spin cycle that new patrons dash outside, convinced that an earthquake is shaking the building.

- A. rocks
- B. rock
- C. rocked
- D. will rock

13. Everyone at Wendy's Washateria, even Myra and old Mrs. Webster, \_\_\_\_\_ that she could afford her own washer and dryer at home.

- A. wished
- B. have wished
- C. wish
- D. wishes

14. Every cereal bowl and casserole dish \_\_\_\_\_ slipped out of Sheila's soapy hands and shattered on the hard tile of the kitchen floor.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. will have
- D. had

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Not only fat caterpillars but also my neighbor's rabbits \_\_\_\_\_ chewed my poor tomato plants to leafless nubs.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. will have
- D. had

16. Two cups of sliced jalapeno peppers \_\_\_\_\_ extreme for a single batch of burrito filling, but that's the amount in Felipe's recipe.

- A. seemed
- B. had seemed
- C. seems
- D. seem

17. Even after winning the away game, the girl's basketball team \_\_\_\_\_ gloomy because Coach Cox will insist that the players return to their hotel rooms to study for next week's classes.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. was
- D. were

18. Either *The Matrix* or *Aliens* \_\_\_\_\_ Sam's favorite science-fiction movie.

- A. was
- B. were
- C. is
- D. are

19. The eight slots on Pam's extra large toaster \_\_\_\_\_ that no one has to fight over frozen waffles during breakfast.

- A. meant
- B. will mean
- C. means
- D. mean

20. "Here \_\_\_\_\_ the box of broken appliances that you promised to repair," Bob reminded Sue, his wife.

- A. is
- B. are
- C. will be
- D. have been

21. Statistics \_\_\_\_\_ become Matt's favorite subject because for fifty minutes three times a week he gets to study the beautiful curls on the back of Betty's head.

- A. has
- B. have
- C. had
- D. will have

22. Elton's newest pair of eyeglasses \_\_\_\_\_ corrected his vision so well that this young man clearly sees the lovely Miranda sneering at his nerdy appearance.

- A. have
- B. had
- C. has
- D. will have

23. The class \_\_\_\_\_ about the solution to the stuffy condition of the room; ten students want to open the window, but the others remember the flood of frightened cockroaches that poured in the last time Mr. Frampton released the window from the frame.

- A. disagrees
- B. disagree
- C. disagreed
- D. will continue to disagree

24. When the fire alarm starts ringing, Mrs. Hoff is one of those teachers who \_\_\_\_\_ that class continue on the lawn outside.

- A. insists
- B. insist
- C. insisted
- D. has insisted

25. Mrs. Hoff and Mrs. Phillips \_\_\_\_\_ that class time is precious and should not be wasted because of someone's immature prank.

- A. believes
- B. believe
- C. believed
- D. will believe

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