

Subject-Verb Agreement – Exercise 4

This handout accompanies Exercise 4 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.

- Every pale tomato slice, wilted pickle, and brown lettuce leaf _____ an extra 25 cents at Bernie's Burger Emporium.
 - costs
 - cost
 - costed
 - had cost
- Not only the Smiths but also Tonya _____ agreed to try one of the world-famous chocolate-broccoli muffins.
 - has
 - have
 - had
 - has been
- The Smiths, along with Tonya, _____ to avoid indigestion after eating these weird muffins.
 - hopes
 - hope
 - hoped
 - had hoped
- On the sidewalk _____ many little lizards sunning themselves on the hot concrete.
 - is
 - are
 - was
 - were
- Even though Antonio has many friends who love their Chevrolets and Buicks, he has always believed that General Motors _____ lemons.
 - makes
 - make
 - made
 - had made
- My dog Floyd, together with Buster the cat, _____ to play with money; the cat swats crumpled bills onto the floor where the dog shreds them to pieces.
 - likes
 - like
 - liked
 - had liked

7. Latoya isn't going to Daytona Beach for spring break because fourteen dollars _____ all that she has in her vacation fund.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. was
 - D. were
8. Even though Johnson and Johnson _____ consumers not to insert Q-tips into their ears, people refuse to read directions and frequently rupture their eardrums.
- A. warns
 - B. warn
 - C. warned
 - D. had warned
9. All of my important keys _____ now stuck in the drain pipe of my bathroom sink. Buster, my kitten, doesn't realize how much his playfulness inconveniences me.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. was
 - D. were
10. Grandpa claims that Martian measles _____ green and purple spots to erupt all over a person's body.
- A. causes
 - B. cause
 - C. will cause
 - D. had caused
11. Digging holes in the sofa cushions _____ Peanut, Elizabeth's new puppy.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. was
 - D. were
12. Even though the jury _____ to believe that the defendant did not feed Elvis to the Loch Ness Monster, much of the evidence points to the her guilt.
- A. wants
 - B. want
 - C. wanted
 - D. are wanting
13. Neither the students nor their instructor _____ happy with the long cafeteria line for squid eyeball stew.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. was
 - D. were

14. Neither of Freud's parents _____ much intelligence when it comes to choosing spouses. Freud's father has married five times, and Mom just presented him with stepfather number three.
- A. has
 - B. have
 - C. are showing
 - D. had
15. Each of these women _____ that she had read the care instructions before washing the delicate and expensive dresses.
- A. wishes
 - B. wish
 - C. wished
 - D. would wish
16. Here _____ the mail and newspapers that I picked up for you while you were on vacation.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. was
 - D. be
17. Mr. Lowry, our English teacher, believes that students who major in economics or physics _____ their imaginations.
- A. ruins
 - B. ruin
 - C. has ruined
 - D. ruined
18. _____ no one except Marge and Beatrice have the subject-verb agreement exercises that Ms. Koopman assigned for today?
- A. does
 - B. do
 - C. did
 - D. has
19. Here _____ Tonya and Robert, the two students who scored 100 percent on the subject-verb agreement quiz.
- A. stands
 - B. stand
 - C. is standing
 - D. stood
20. General Foods, the maker of Cheerios, _____ developed a new cereal with chocolate puffs and broccoli-flavored marshmallows.
- A. has
 - B. have
 - C. had
 - D. is

21. Each man, woman, and child _____ to write General Foods a letter supporting the company's decision to produce a chocolate-broccoli breakfast cereal.
- A. needs
 - B. need
 - C. needed
 - D. will need
22. There _____ more calories in a bowl of chocolate-broccoli breakfast cereal than you might think.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. will be
 - D. were
23. Not only the vitamin C from the broccoli but also the delicious taste of the chocolate _____ this breakfast cereal a real crowd pleaser.
- A. makes
 - B. make
 - C. made
 - D. will make
24. Who needs a pet if you live in Florida? There already _____ lizards that sneak in between the window screens and cockroaches that take up residence in every bathroom and kitchen.
- A. is
 - B. are
 - C. has been
 - D. had been
25. Susan is one of those students who _____ up to the instructor every chance that they get.
- A. kisses
 - B. kiss
 - C. kissed
 - D. has kissed



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