

Subject-Verb Agreement WS – 3

Name _____

Date _____ Period _____

- Subjects joined by *and* usually take a **plural** verb.
 - A compound subject that names only one person or thing takes a **singular** verb.
- Singular subjects joined by *or* or *nor* take a singular verb.
 - Plural subjects joined by *or* or *nor* take a plural verb.
- When a singular subject and a plural subject are joined by *or* or *nor*, the verb agrees with the subject nearer the verb.

PART I - Directions: Above the compound subject, write *S* if it is singular or *P* if it is plural. Then, underline the correct form of the verb in parentheses.

P

Example: Acids and bases (*is, are*) interesting.

1. Acids and bases (*is, are*) one of our topics in science class.
2. Red litmus paper and blue litmus paper (*is, are*) used to show the presence of acids or bases.
3. Some food and common household items (*contains, contain*) acids.
4. (*Does, Do*) macaroni and cheese contain acids?
5. Citrus fruit and vinegar (*make, makes*) good test items.
6. Either a lemon or a lime (*is, are*) easy to test.
7. Lemon juice and other acids (*turns, turn*) blue litmus paper red.
8. Vinegar and lemon juice (*contains, contain*) acids.
9. Neither lemons nor limes (*is, are*) bases.
10. Acids and bases (*combines, combine*) to make salts.

PART II – Directions: If the underlined verb in each of the following sentences does not agree with the subject, write the correct form of the verb above it. If the verb form is already correct, write *C* above it. Hint: Two are correct.

play

Example: Experiments and observations plays an important role in science.

11. Either baking soda or soap are a salt.
12. Fats or oils is added to bases to make soap.
13. Are plaster and cement made with bases?
14. The acidity or alkalinity of a solution are expressed as a pH value.
15. A pH value as low as 0 or one as high as 7 indicates acidity.

Part III – Directions: Rewrite each sentence, changing the underlined subject from singular to plural. You will, of course, need to change the verb so that it agrees with the subject.

Example: There is a picture on the wall.
 There *are* pictures on the wall.

1. Our greatest traffic problem is due to reckless drivers.

2. The principal attends every game.

3. Doesn't the cake look delicious?

4. Where is my pile of books?

5. Before a smart voter goes to the polls, she studies the issues.

Part IV – Directions: Rewrite each sentence, changing the conjunction that joins the subjects to the one given in parentheses. You will need to change the verb so that it agrees with the subjects.

Example: A thick hedge and a high wall give a feeling of privacy. (or)
 A thick hedge *or* a high wall *gives* a feeling of privacy.

6. Courage or perseverance is needed for rock climbing. (and)

7. Kirk and his sister cater parties and weddings. (or)

8. Two nickels or a dime works in that vending machine. (and)

9. Joel and John plan to go to the party. (or)

10. Cake or ice cream is what she ordered for her party. (and)
