

Subject Verb Agreement

What is Subject-Verb Agreement?

Subject-Verb Agreement means that the subject and verb in a sentence must match in number.

- A singular subject takes a singular verb.
- A plural subject takes a plural verb.

Example:

- Rachna rides her bicycle.
- Rachna and Sara ride their bicycles.

Key Rules to Remember

- 1. Singular noun = Singular verb
 - The dog barks.
 - o An elephant has a short tail
- 2. Plural noun = Plural verb
 - o The dogs bark.
 - Elephants have short tails.
- 3. Singular pronoun = Singular verb
 - He is, She was, It does, She has
- 4. Plural pronoun = Plural verb
 - o We are, They were, You do, They have

Important Subject-Verb Combinations

Subject	Verb Form (Be)	Verb Form (Have)	Verb Form (Do)
I	am / was	have	do

Subject	Verb Form (Be)	Verb Form (Have)	Verb Form (Do)
We	are / were	have	do
You	are / were	have	do
He/She/It	is / was	has	does
They	are / were	have	do

Examples and Exercises

Fill in the blanks using correct verb forms (is/am/are)

- 1. The stars are twinkling in the sky.
- 2. Ritu is very fond of music.
- 3. We are doing our homework.
- 4. The boys are swimming in the pool.
- 5. I am a student.
- 6. Rohit is a clever boy.

Fill in the blanks using was/were

- 1. Neha was feeding it.
- 2. The farmers were working in the field.
- 3. The squirrel was climbing a tree.
- 4. The train was late yesterday.

Fill in the blanks using has/have

- 1. You have a nice apartment.
- 2. A triangle has three sides.
- 3. They have an exam tomorrow.

4. Simran has many friends.

Points to Remember

- A verb must agree with its subject in both number and person.
- Words like each, every, everyone, someone, somebody are singular and take singular verbs.
- Compound subjects joined by "and" take plural verbs.
 - o e.g., Rohit and Dev are best friends.
- When two singular nouns are joined by or/nor, use a singular verb.
 - o e.g., Either Ritu or Seema is going to the market.