



मिशन SSC 2023

ENGLISH



SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT



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SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT ADVANCED TRICKS



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Subject-Verb Agreement: Advanced Tricks

Trick 1: Some indefinite pronouns are considered singular and require singular verb forms.

The following is the list of indefinite pronouns: anyone, anybody, anything, No one, nobody, nothing, someone, somebody, something, everyone, everybody, everything, whatever and whoever.

Example: Everyone wants to watch the movie.
(Notice the singular verb 'wants' in this



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Trick 2: Five indefinite pronouns can be either singular or plural, depending on the usage.

Which are these pronouns? These are the SANAM pronouns: Some, Any, None, All, More / Most. You can use this handy mnemonic, SANAM, to keep this in mind.

Now the important thing is the basis on which we decide whether the noun is



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- If the noun is a countable noun (nouns for which the plural form exists), then the verb is plural.
- If the noun is an uncountable noun (nouns for which only the singular forms exists), then the verb is singular. Let's take up some example sentences to understand how this works.

Examples using Countable Nouns:

Q. 1. There are 100 students in the school. (100 students are)



We can see in both these cases that the nouns are plural in nature (girls and glasses) and therefore the verb is plural in nature (are and were). Now let's take up the example of uncountable nouns.

Examples using Uncountable Nouns:

Sentence 1: Some water is needed.

Sentence 2: Most of the money was lost.

In this case, we can see that water and money are uncountable nouns (these cannot be counted and the plural form does not exist for these words).



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Trick 3: After many / a great many / a good many, etc., the noun is always plural, which is followed by a plural verb.

Example: A great many girls are following fashion trends these days. (Here the plural noun 'girls' is followed by the plural



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Trick 4: After 'a number of / a large number', the noun and verb in the sentence are always plural.

Example: A number of soldiers have lost their lives on the border. (Here the noun 'soldiers' is used in the plural form and the verb 'have lost' is also plural in nature.)



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Trick 5: After 'the number', the noun is plural but the verb is singular.

Example: The number of soldiers at the border is large.

This time, even though the noun soldiers is plural, the verb in the sentence, 'is', is singular in nature.

The reason for this is that we are referring to a singular number in this



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Trick 6: Collective nouns may take either a singular or a plural verb, depending on their use in the sentence.

If collective nouns are acting as a unit, use a singular verb. If the sentence implies that the individual members are taking up different actions, we use a plural verb.

Before we understand this rule, let's understand what collective nouns are.

Collective nouns are nouns that refer to a group of people or things.



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A class of students.

An army of soldiers.

Now that you know what collective nouns are, let's take two sentences to understand how they operate.

Sentence 1: The committee is discussing the issue of safety in the neighborhood.

Sentence 2: The committee are



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**QUESTIONS BASED ON
SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT**



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1. Many a students (1)/
participated (2)/ in the
competition (3) / no error

00:20

'Many a' takes a singular subject and a singular verb.



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2. Shivangi never (1)/ has and
never will allow (2)/ her brother
to join army (3)/ no error

00:20

add 'allowed' after 'has'



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3. Not only will shivangi (1)/
come here but also (2)/ she
will stay (3)/ no error

00:20

'will she' instead of 'she will'



4. My brother like the other members (1)/ of my family were left shelterless (2)/ as a result of flood in the city (3)/ no error

00:20

was instead of were.



5. More students than (1)/ one
were (2)/ absent yesterday
(3)/ no error

00:20

no error

◆ Tip – ‘ more than one ‘ takes a
singular noun and a singular verb.



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6. It were the student (1)/ who
wanted the teacher (2)/ to
declare holiday today (3)/ no
error

00:20

'was' instead of 'were'



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7. I made my (1)/ friend wrote
(2)/ a letter in blue ink (3)/ no
error

00:20

'write' in place of wrote



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8. We had better (1)/ to leave early if
(2)/ we want to reach the
examination hall on time (3)/ no
error

00:20

omit 'to'



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9. (a) Everyone of the films/ (b) you suggested/ (c) are not worth seeing./ (d) No error

00:20

Everyone takes Singular VERB so
are to IS



10. (a) The Secretary and Principal of the college/ (b) are attending/ (c) the District Development Council Meeting at the Collectorate./ (d) No error

00:20

Replace are with is b part

