Chapter 8: Agreement, pp. 124–145

Subject-Verb Agreement A, p. 124

EXERCISE A
1. cases—P 11. feet—P
2. us—P 12. she—S
3. clock—S 13. few—P
4. book—S 14. spoons—P
5. pencil—S 15. pin—S
6. stereos—P 16. lemon—S
7. them—P 17. plate—S
8. wish—S 18. tribes—P
9. mice—P 19. shelves—P
10. knuckle—S 20. yam—S

EXERCISE B
21. persons [or people] 26. hawks
22. dentists 27. actors
23. cups 28. cows
24. audiences 29. scientists
25. reporters 30. potatoes

Subject-Verb Agreement B, p. 125

EXERCISE A
Item 6—If a student interprets the collective noun audience as signifying individual members of a group, you may wish to accept start.
1. likes 6. starts
2. enjoys 7. prefers
3. was 8. are
4. has 9. ask
5. is 10. is

EXERCISE B
11. has 14. have
12. is 15. does
13. Does

Subject-Verb Agreement C, p. 126

EXERCISE A
1. carry 6. declares
2. includes 7. is
3. make 8. were
4. is 9. were
5. draws 10. echoes

EXERCISE B
1. Something about the candidate’s answers (has, have) been bothering me ever since the debate.
2. Both of the dogs (has, have) already been treated for heartworm.
3. All of the stuff in the attic (need, needs) to be dusted before the yard sale.
4. Neither of the movies (is, are) very good.
5. (Have, Has) not several of these dogs already won awards?
6. Everybody who is registered for the class (read, reads) the same books.
7. No one in the play (was, were) prepared for the overwhelming response of the audience on opening night.
8. (Is, Are) any of the dough ready to be baked?
9. The director is pleased that more of the singers (have, has) memorized the score for this rehearsal than for the last rehearsal.
10. Somebody among the reporters covering the trial (is, are) getting inside information from the district attorney.

Subject-Verb Agreement E, p. 128

EXERCISE
1. Few of the world’s sharks (grows, grow) to be sixty feet long.
2. One of the most interesting sharks (is, are) the whale shark.
3. Each of a whale shark’s eggs (is, are) quite large.
4. “(Has, Have) anyone here ever seen a whale shark’s egg?” asked the tour guide.
5. None of the sharks (swims, swim) toward the visitors.
6. Some of the other sea creatures (is, are) frightening, too.
7. Many of the visitors (screams, scream).
8. Few of us (has, have) seen a giant jellyfish before.
9. Several of the park’s divers (follows, follow) a manta ray.
10. Everyone in our class (seems, seem) to be having a good time at the ocean park.

Subject-Verb Agreement F, p. 129

EXERCISE
1. Plants and flowers (is, are) featured on the cover of this book about Carver’s life.
2. The author and illustrator of the book (is, are) the same person.
3. According to the book, grief and sorrow (was, were) part of Carver’s early life.
4. Neither his mother nor his father (was, were) alive to raise Carver.
5. At the time, slaveholding and slave trading (was, were) widespread.
6. Neither Carver nor many other African Americans (was, were) able to find a college that would enroll them.
7. Neither the large universities nor the local college (was, were) accepting applications from African Americans.
8. Just laws and the strict enforcement of them (was, were) needed.
9. Also described in the book (is, are) Carver’s experiments and discoveries.
10. An innovative educator and scientist (was, were) George Washington Carver.

Subject-Verb Agreement G, p. 130

EXERCISE A
1. are
2. are
3. Have
4. There is
5. is
6. Do
7. were
8. are
9. do
10. are

EXERCISE B
11. (Are, Is) your little brother a finalist in the state gymnastics tournament?
12. (There’s, There are) over forty species of birds that pass through my backyard.
13. How (do, does) bees make honey?
14. Here (lie, lies) the ruins of the colony.
15. When (is, are) your cousins from Guatemala coming to visit?
16. (Do, Does) anyone here have change for a twenty-dollar bill?
17. There (was, were) no excuses for what Dudley had done.
18. What *(do, does)* the Andersons want to know about the school system?

19. *(Has, Have)* someone told you the rules of our game?

20. Here *(is, are)* Amy and her sisters!

**Subject-Verb Agreement H, p. 131**

**EXERCISE A**

1. don’t
2. don’t
3. Don’t
4. don’t
5. doesn’t

6. don’t
7. Doesn’t
8. doesn’t
9. doesn’t
10. Doesn’t

**EXERCISE B**

11. doesn’t
12. Doesn’t
13. doesn’t
14. doesn’t
15. doesn’t

16. Don’t
17. doesn’t
18. doesn’t
19. doesn’t
20. doesn’t

**Subject-Verb Agreement I, p. 132**

**EXERCISE A**

1. practice
2. travels
3. decides
4. grazes
5. holds

6. applauds
7. lift
8. clean
9. have
10. are

**EXERCISE B**

11. bicker
12. have
13. present

14. greets
15. discuss

**Subject-Verb Agreement J, p. 133**

**EXERCISE A**

1. was
2. is
3. were
4. seems
5. were

6. feels [or feel]
7. is
8. were
9. have
10. is

**EXERCISE B**

11. were
12. is
13. Is

14. slip
15. was

**Subject-Verb Agreement K, p. 134**

**EXERCISE A**

1. is
2. is
3. is
4. Is
5. seems

6. is
7. is
8. awards
9. stars
10. feels

**EXERCISE B**

11. are
12. are
13. is

14. is
15. Are

**Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement A, p. 135**

**EXERCISE**

Some answers may vary.

1. Mary Ellen took **her** dog for a walk after dinner.

2. One of the men bent to pick up **his** tools.

3. Somebody left **his or her** books on the lawn last night.

4. Sean said that **he** was too tired to come with us to the movies.

5. Out of sheer boredom, the **cat** chased **its** own tail.

6. Stanley went up to **his** room to do the homework assignment.

7. Miranda hung the diploma on the wall of **her** bedroom.

8. Each of the girls on the soccer team received **her** own jersey yesterday.

9. As the sun set, the **mountain** cast **its** shadow across the desert.

10. Pick up the frying pan and bring **it** to me, please.

11. We stayed awake to watch the **film** until **it** was over.
12. If your sister gets here after I leave, tell _______ I left a casserole in the fridge.

13. Neither of the boys remembered where _______ baseball glove was.


15. Either of the men is willing to tell you what _______ saw at the accident scene.

16. Emily Dickinson often gave _______ poems away as gifts to neighbors.

17. Everybody at the office put flowers in _______ cubicle.

18. The author of The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn changed _______ name from Samuel Clemens to Mark Twain.

19. Each of the nuns lifted _______ hand to make the sign of the cross.

20. Someone hung _______ wet towel over the shower curtain.

**Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement B, p. 136**

**Exercise A**

1. When we’re playing tennis, my brother and _______ never let the other players intimidate _______.

2. Either Jason or Raul will bring _______ tool kit to the bicycle race.

3. Brenda and Caitlin told us that _______ didn’t plan to come to the party.

4. If either Brittany or Celine wants to be a successful writer, _______ will need to work hard.

5. Leora and Annette pooled _______ resources to buy a birthday present for Jim.

6. Please ask Glendon and Maria if _______ science fair project is ready yet.

7. Did Lauryn or Marian say if _______ was going to the mock trial?

8. Karen and I discussed _______ difference of opinion quite calmly.

9. Frank and Tina would like the class to help _______ set up their display.

10. Let Kathryn and Michael know in advance if _______ should bring a dish to the party.

**Exercise B**

11. Julio and Spike have brought all of _______ CDs to the dance.

12. Neither Faith nor Deanna knew where _______ bicycle was.

13. Is Melissa or Martina sure they won’t join us?

14. Let’s ask Antonia and Belle if _______ read the Harry Potter books.

15. Does Dutch or Pike have _______ notebook with him?

**Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement C, p. 137**

**Exercise**

1. Some of the CDs have lost _______ jewel cases.

2. Few of the women’s soccer team enjoyed _______ stay in Helsinki.

3. Either of the brothers is willing to bring _______ baseball glove to the game.

4. Hasn’t anybody announced _______ intentions yet?

5. Many of the reporters do _______ own research.

6. All of the rosebushes in the garden have thorns on it.
7. Everyone in the class is aware of their responsibility to bring a note from home.
8. Someone on the swimming team left their goggles by the side of the pool.
9. Several of the boys joined the military after he graduated from high school.
10. Some of the people in the audience got the joke, and they laughed heartily.

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement D, p. 138

EXERCISE
1. Each of my sisters has _____ own pogo stick.
2. None of the employees should reveal _____ password to anyone.
3. Everything the teacher said made sense the moment he said _____ it.
4. Both of the astronomical calendars have the same nebula on _____ covers.
5. Several of the police officers spent _____ holidays volunteering at the new community center.
6. If you have anything to say during the debate, please say _____ as succinctly as possible.
7. Neither of my grandmothers has ever revealed _____ secret for making jambalaya.
8. More of the palm trees have been planted this year because _____ look so striking along the beach.
9. One of the male interns put _____ clipboard down to pick up the baby.
10. Most of the radio program was written by Marta, but a few minutes of _____ were written by Tish.

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement E, p. 139

EXERCISE A

Some answers may vary.

1. The thundering _____ left a wide swath of flattened grass in (its, their) wake.
2. As the team entered the lobby, the fans began to ask for (its, their) autographs.
3. After debating all of (its, their) options, the President's commission issued its report.
4. The readership of the newspaper were not shy about making (its, their) opinions known.
5. The jury could not agree among (itself, themselves) what to order for lunch.
6. During the intermission, the ensemble tuned (its, their) instruments.
7. The majority of the class took (its, their) work home that night.
8. The Fantasy Society voted The Lord of the Rings (its, their) choice for Book of the Century.
9. The cast of the play took (its, their) curtain calls one at a time.
10. The crowd voted with (its, their) feet and left the debate early.

EXERCISE B

11. The troupe of actors looked good in _____ costumes.
12. The entire staff lined up in the parking lot to have _____ picture taken.
13. The committee cannot even agree among themselves.
14. After a fierce battle, the platoon took _____ position at the top of the ridge.
15. After winning, the team posed for photographs with their ecstatic fans.

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement F, p. 140

EXERCISE A

1. If I make fifty dollars from the carwash this weekend, I can use (it, them) to put a down payment on a bicycle.
2. After Luther oiled the shears (it, they) were ready to use again.
3. Michiko poured the molasses and watched (it, them) cover the bottom of the pan.
4. Now that you’ve heard the news, do you think (it, they) will affect how you vote?
5. If you want to go to the Olympics, you have to train for (it, them).
6. Sue had three dollars in her wallet, but now one of (it, them) is missing.
7. Vera dropped the pliers in the grass, and then spent an hour looking for (it, them).
8. Mathematics was more than an interest for Leora; (it, they) became a passion.
9. Roxanne decided not to wear her shorts because (it, they) had become threadbare.
10. He had only seventy-five cents; would (it, them) be enough to pay for the juice?

EXERCISE B

Item 12 may be considered correct as written.

11. Francesca decided to take civics because she could fit them into her schedule.
12. Malik managed to avoid getting measles even though everyone he knew had them.
13. Take the binoculars out of its case, please.
14. Did you hear the news? Could they be any worse?
15. Of all the pants you could have worn, those that could be the worst.

Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement G, p. 141

EXERCISE

1. Discount Appliances used to be located on Burnet Avenue; they stood where a beautiful orchard used to grow.
2. C
3. After Tranh was assigned to read Great Expectations, the Charles Dickens masterpiece, he managed to finish them over the weekend.
4. C
5. The Sons of the Desert, devoted to the comic films of Laurel and Hardy, was founded in 1964, and my grandfather has been a member of them since 1967.
6. After I read “Flowers for Algernon,” I found out that Hollywood has adapted them for the movies twice.
7. As you read T. S. Eliot’s “The Hollow Men,” consider the effect of them on your imagination.
8. Jacques Offenbach never completed his opera The Tales of Hoffmann; Ernest Guiraud finished them after Offenbach’s death.
9. When you come to the Narrows, where so many ships have gone down, go around them.
10. C

Review A: Subject-Verb Agreement, p. 142

EXERCISE A

1. My shoes and my shirt lies at the end of the bed.
2. Either Dr. Chen or Dr. Montoya plans to perform the operation.
3. Does someone who has read the books have something to say?
Review B: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement, p. 143

EXERCISE A

1. Many of the science fair contestants have brought his or her own equipment.
2. One of the girls has gotten mud all over their shoes.
3. Every member of the class brought their own pencil to the test on Friday.
4. Either Sergio or Michael will need to bring their boombox to the party.
5. No one in the family remembered to bring their key to the cabin by the lake.
6. Aren’t all of your uncles taking a fishing pole with him on vacation?
7. A few of the students told his or her parents about the pop quiz on Friday.
8. Each of the kittens cried for their mother.
9. One of the young women was certain that the award for Best Class Song was going to them.
10. Some of the books showed Princess Diana on its covers.

EXERCISE B

11. Neither Jay nor Sonya (is, are) going to the folk festival this year.
12. Each of the children (has, have) gone to bed by now.
13. Anyone who listens to the singer’s music (has, have) to get up and dance.
14. Our cat Conrad and our dog Padgett (like, likes) to sleep on the bed.
15. Katherine told me that the League of Women Voters (is, are) sponsoring a debate between the two candidates this Wednesday.
16. All of my aunts and uncles (remember, remembers) when my grandmother’s birthday is.
17. (Doesn’t, Don’t) most people in our town recycle their bottles and cans?
18. Either of the girls (is, are) happy to help you rake your lawn.
19. When (is, are) the football team scheduled to play Reed City?
20. Enrique told me that he (don’t, doesn’t) care for okra.

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16. Have you ever wondered why birds resting on a branch or a telephone wire tuck (its, their) heads under their wings during a storm?
17. The council didn’t get to (its, their) final vote until nine o’clock that night.
18. Someone from the boys’ basketball team left (his, their) shoes on the bench.
19. Those young (women) will carry (her, their) own luggage onto the plane.
20. Neither of the girls can tell me where (her, their) sleeping bag is.

Review C: Agreement, p. 144

EXERCISE A
1. The sound of all these birds (echoes, echo) all around the courtyard.
2. Economics (seems, seem) like a difficult subject to some people.
3. Fifteen feet of rope were necessary to secure the boat to the dock.
4. Moving with one mind, the crowd (surges, surge toward the stage.
5. Don’t he know which way he’s going?
6. Where (are) the books that I left on the kitchen counter?
7. (Does)
8. Everybody who contributed to the charities (are, is) welcome at the annual dinner.
9. About ten percent of the furniture (are, is) sitting in a warehouse.
10. (Does)

EXERCISE B
11. Mikki has saved fifty dollars; she plans to use (it, them) to buy a present.
12. As soon as we heard the news from France, we passed along to our friends at home.
13. After seeing the film *Darby O’Gill and the Little People*, Declan recommended it (them) to his brother.
14. Candace or Melanie will bring (her, their) soccer ball to the championship match.
15. (Does)
16. No one who has ever seen Angkor Wat will ever forget (his, their) first impression of it.
17. We heard that some of the boys’ ski team (are) bringing (his, their) own skis.
18. (Does)
19. After you’re done with the binoculars, please put it (them) back in the case.
20. The jury debated the verdict among (them, themselves).

Review D: Agreement, p. 145

EXERCISE
1. Nicoletta or Jacqueline will present (their, her) book report to the class tomorrow.
2. Everybody in our classes (were, was) informed in advance about the change in schedule.
3. Some of the best paintings (are, is) next door; let’s look at it (them) first.
4. Here are the books you ordered online, Ms. Shimeda.
5. Each of the priests (spoke, spoke to) their own congregation.
6. Some of the groceries (have, was) been placed in the pantry.
7. Either the players or the coach (call) timeout.
8. A theater and a rehearsal room (were, has) added to the high school last year.
9. Everyone who completed their project on time was rewarded with a bright, shiny apple.

10. Nobody in the caravan was paying attention when the camel went astray.

11. The Cho family will take their vacation this year in Thailand.

12. When the shears were broken, Eric found time to repair it.

13. Does the dog and cat get along?

14. Macaroni and cheese is my favorite dish.

15. If you spill all of the cereal, make sure to clean it up.

16. Neither Uncle Lyle nor Uncle Tector remembered where his boots were.

17. The presence of thousands of peacekeeping troops assures the villagers of their safety.

18. When presented with a legal summons, a citizen has an obligation to respond to it.

19. We will listen to half of Nights in the Garden of Spain this morning, and we will hear the rest of it this afternoon.

20. Neither the students nor the players is liable to forget the homecoming game.
Chapter 8: Agreement, pp. 29–33

**Choices: Examining Agreement, p. 29**

Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students’ understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

**Proofreading Application: Speech, p. 30**

Mr. Frost, our conductor, and the orchestra welcome you to our first annual concert and chorus. Each of the members of our orchestra has spent many hours of their own free time practicing for this event. Most of the selections tonight were written or arranged by American composers. We are proud to say that several of our own students have contributed their own compositions to the evening’s entertainment. A few of our selections include choral accompaniment. Our chorus are directed by Mrs. Theresa Fernandez. Either Mrs. Fernandez or Mr. Frost will be introducing their selections as the evening continues. “The Stars and Stripes Forever” are our first piece.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the music department may give their contribution to the students at the table in the front hall. All of us at King Middle School invites you to sit back and enjoy the show.

**Literary Model: Short Story, pp. 31–32**

**EXERCISE A**

“Sam,” says Bill, “I suppose you’ll think I’m a renegade, but I couldn’t help it. . . . The boy is gone. I sent him home. All is off. There were martyrs in old times,” goes on Bill, “that suffered death rather than give up the particular graft they enjoyed. None of ’em was subjugated to such supernatural tortures as I have been. . . .”

“What’s the trouble, Bill?” asks him.

“I was rode,” says Bill, “the ninety miles to the stockade, not barring an inch. Then, when the settlers was rescued, I was given oats. . . . I tell you, Sam, a human can only stand so much. I takes him by the neck of his clothes and drags him down the mountain. On the way he kicks my legs black and blue from the knees down. . . .”

**EXERCISE B**

Responses will vary. A sample response is given.

Both characters make subject-verb agreement errors in their speech. O. Henry probably wanted his characters to sound as if they did not have a complete education, either by choice or because they lived in a time when not everyone received a complete education.

**EXERCISE C**

Responses will vary. A sample response is given.

“Roy, you have been my gardener for twenty years, and this is the first time in those twenty years that the roses do not look perfect. Whatever is the matter?”

“I’m awful sorry, Mrs. Whitcomb. It don’t seem to be a problem with the weather. And they was comin’ up as buds just fine. But then last week I started noticin’ how droopy your roses was lookin’. And it made me grieve ‘cause
I know how much you was countin’ on showin’ ’em at the county fair, like you always do.”

“Do you think we should call in a specialist—perhaps some type of soil doctor?”

“No, ma’am. There don’t seem to be cause for that yet. Give me a while to think on the problem first.”

**Exercise D**

*Responses will vary. A sample response is given.*

1. It gives the reader the information that the gardener probably did not get a complete education. It also helps to contrast the gardener’s background with his employer’s background.

2. I had to think of errors in subject-verb agreement that might really be said by someone with my character’s background. I wanted the character’s speech to be realistic, so I had to make sure I did not overdo using this type of error.

**Writing Application: Directions, p. 33**

Writing Applications are designed to provide students immediate composition practice in using key concepts taught in each chapter of the *Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics: Language Skills Practice* booklet. You may wish to evaluate student responses to these assignments as you do any other writing that students produce. To save grading time, however, you may want to use the following scoring rubric.

**Scoring Rubric**

The clues can be puzzled out by thoughtful elementary school students.

1. Prepositional phrases have been used to describe the items’ locations, and agreement is correct.

2. The writing has an upbeat tone.

3. The assignment is relatively free of errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics.

4. **Total Score**

5 = highest; 1 = lowest