

Multiple Choice Identify The Sentence In Each Group In Which The Underlined Verb Does NOT Agree With Its

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Understanding subject-verb agreement is fundamental to mastering English grammar and writing clear, grammatically correct sentences. In particular, identifying sentences where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject is a crucial skill for students, writers, and language learners alike. This guide will help you develop the ability to spot errors related to subject-verb agreement, especially in multiple-choice questions, and provide strategies to improve your understanding and accuracy.

Understanding Subject-Verb Agreement

What is Subject-Verb Agreement?

Subject-verb agreement refers to the grammatical rule that the verb in a sentence must match its subject in number and person. Essentially:

- Singular subjects take singular verbs.
- Plural subjects take plural verbs.

For example:

- The dog runs in the yard. (singular subject and verb)
- The dogs run in the yard. (plural subject and verb)

Why Is It Important?

Correct subject-verb agreement ensures clarity and professionalism in writing. Errors can lead to confusion or misinterpretation of your message. In tests and assessments, identifying agreement errors is often a key component of evaluating language proficiency.

Common Challenges in Subject-Verb Agreement

1. Subjects Separated from Verbs

Sometimes, intervening phrases or clauses can distract from the main subject:

- The bouquet of roses was beautiful.
- The keys to the car are on the table.

2. Collective Nouns

Depending on whether the group acts as a unit or as individuals, the verb may be singular or plural:

- The team is winning. (acting as a single unit)
- The team are arguing among themselves. (acting as individuals)

3. Indefinite Pronouns

Some pronouns are always singular, some always plural, and some can be both:

- Everyone is invited.
- Many are coming.

4. Compound Subjects

When two subjects are joined by "and," they typically require a plural verb:

- Jack and Jill are going up the hill.

But, when the subjects are considered a single entity or refer to the same thing, a singular verb is used:

- Bread and butter is my favorite breakfast.

Analyzing Multiple Choice Questions on Subject-Verb Agreement

In multiple-choice questions, the key is to identify which sentence contains a verb that does not agree with its subject. Usually, the question presents several options, with one or more sentences being correct and others containing errors.

Steps to Approach These Questions

1. Read each sentence carefully, paying close attention to the subject and the underlined verb.
2. Identify the subject of the sentence and determine whether it is

singular or plural.

3. Check if the verb agrees with the subject in number and person.
4. Look for distractors, such as intervening phrases or tricky subjects, that can mislead your judgment.
5. Select the sentence where the verb does not agree with its subject.

Common Types of Errors to Watch Out For

- Incorrect verb forms with singular or plural subjects.
- Misplaced modifiers that confuse the subject or verb.
- Incorrect use of collective nouns.
- Failure to recognize compound subjects and their agreement requirements.
- Errors involving indefinite pronouns.

Practice Examples and Explanations

To solidify your understanding, let's analyze sample groups of sentences, focusing on identifying the one where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject.

Group 1

1. The list of items are on the table.
2. The team wins its matches regularly.
3. Neither of the boys has finished his homework.
4. The books on the shelf is dusty.

Analysis:

- Sentence 1: "The list of items" is singular; the correct verb should be

"is." The incorrect verb is "are."

- Sentence 2: "The team" as a singular noun takes "wins." Correct.
- Sentence 3: "Neither" is singular; "has" is correct.
- Sentence 4: "The books" is plural; "is" is incorrect; should be "are."

Answer: Sentence 1 contains the verb that does not agree with its subject.

Group 2

1. The children in the park plays happily.
2. My brother and sister are visiting us this weekend.
3. Each of the students needs to submit their assignments.
4. The data indicates a rise in sales.

Analysis:

- Sentence 1: "Children" is plural; "plays" is singular. Incorrect.
- Sentence 2: "My brother and sister" are two people; plural, "are" correct.
- Sentence 3: "Each" is singular; "needs" is correct, but "their" should be "his or her" for strict correctness, though "their" is often accepted informally.
- Sentence 4: "Data" is plural; "indicates" is singular; the correct verb should be "indicate."

Answer: Sentence 1 or 4 both have incorrect agreement, but the question asks for the one where the underlined verb does NOT agree; in this case, both are errors, but if only one is underlined, pick that. If both are options, choose the one with the most glaring error.

Advanced Tips for Mastering Subject-Verb Agreement

1. Practice with Varied Sentences

Regularly practicing with different sentence structures enhances your ability to recognize agreement errors swiftly.

2. Learn the Rules of Collective Nouns and Indefinite Pronouns

Knowing when to use singular or plural verbs with collective nouns and

pronouns helps prevent common mistakes.

3. Be Alert to Interruptions and Modifiers

Intervening words or phrases can distract from the core subject; always identify the main subject before choosing the verb.

4. Use Grammar Checkers and Resources

Leverage tools and grammar guides to verify your understanding and correct mistakes.

5. Review and Correct Your Mistakes

Analyzing your errors helps reinforce proper agreement rules and improves your editing skills.

Conclusion

Mastering the skill of identifying sentences where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject is essential for effective writing and language proficiency. Through careful analysis of sentence structures, understanding of grammatical rules, and consistent practice, you can develop a keen eye for subject-verb agreement errors. Remember to pay attention to tricky cases involving collective nouns, indefinite pronouns, and compound subjects, as these are common sources of mistakes. By applying the strategies and examples provided, you'll be well-equipped to confidently tackle multiple-choice questions and improve your overall grammatical accuracy.

Remember: Always read sentences carefully, identify the subject, check the verb agreement, and be mindful of intervening words or phrases that might obscure the true subject. With diligent practice, recognizing agreement errors will become second nature, enhancing both your writing and editing skills.

Frequently Asked Questions

In the following group, which sentence contains a

verb that does not agree with its subject?

Sentence B: The list of items are on the table.

Identify the sentence where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject.

Sentence C: The team of players is practicing every afternoon.

Which sentence has a verb that does not match its subject in number?

Sentence D: Neither the teacher nor the students was prepared for the quiz.

Find the sentence in the group where the underlined verb is incorrectly matched with its subject.

Sentence A: The books on the shelf needs to be organized.

In which sentence does the underlined verb fail to agree with its subject?

Sentence B: The group of friends are planning a trip.

Select the sentence where the verb does not agree with its subject.

Sentence E: The couple plans to travel next month.

Which sentence demonstrates a disagreement between the subject and the underlined verb?

Sentence F: The data collected indicates a positive trend.

Identify the sentence with a subject-verb disagreement.

Sentence G: The family of four is going to the park.

Among the options, which sentence features a verb that does not agree with its subject?

Sentence H: The news about the events are shocking.

Additional Resources

Multiple Choice Identify The Sentence In Each Group In Which The Underlined Verb Does NOT Agree With Its

Understanding subject-verb agreement is fundamental to mastering English grammar. The phrase "Multiple Choice Identify The Sentence In Each Group In Which The Underlined Verb Does NOT Agree With Its" hints at a common grammatical exercise aimed at testing one's ability to recognize errors in subject-verb agreement within multiple-choice questions. This type of exercise is particularly prevalent in standardized testing, language learning courses, and grammar practice sessions. The goal is to identify sentences where the underlined verb does not correctly agree with its subject, thereby sharpening students' grammatical accuracy and comprehension skills.

In this article, we will explore the importance of subject-verb agreement, analyze typical question structures, provide strategies for identifying errors, and review example questions to illustrate the concepts. Whether you are a student preparing for exams or a language enthusiast seeking to improve your grammar, understanding how to identify mismatched verbs is an essential skill.

Understanding Subject-Verb Agreement

Subject-verb agreement refers to the grammatical rule that a singular subject takes a singular verb, and a plural subject takes a plural verb. This rule ensures clarity and grammatical correctness in sentences. For example:

- Correct: The cat runs fast.
- Incorrect: The cat run fast.

Key Principles of Subject-Verb Agreement

- Singular subjects require singular verbs.
- Plural subjects require plural verbs.
- Indefinite pronouns such as everyone, each, and someone are generally singular.
- Compound subjects connected by "and" are usually plural, while those connected by "or" or "nor" agree with the nearer subject.

Understanding these principles is the foundation for recognizing errors in multiple-choice questions.

Typical Structure of Multiple Choice Questions

Multiple-choice questions designed to test subject-verb agreement typically present a sentence with an underlined verb and several options. The task is to identify which option contains an incorrect agreement. For example:

Select the sentence in which the underlined verb does NOT agree with its subject:

- a) The list of items is on the desk.
- b) The team of players are practicing.
- c) Neither the teacher nor the students were present.
- d) The bouquet of roses smells lovely.

In this case, options b) and c) are correct, but if option b) had "are" instead of "is," it would be incorrect because "list" is singular, so "is" is correct here.

Strategies for Identifying Errors in Subject-Verb Agreement

To effectively answer multiple-choice questions on this topic, consider the following strategies:

1. Identify the Subject First

Ignore the underlined verb initially and find the true subject of the sentence. This step prevents confusion caused by intervening phrases or modifiers.

2. Determine the Subject's Number

Decide whether the subject is singular or plural. This will guide you to select the correct verb form.

3. Watch for Compound Subjects

If the subject is compound, connected by "and," it generally takes a plural verb. If connected by "or" or "nor," the verb should agree with the nearer subject.

4. Pay Attention to Indefinite Pronouns

Some indefinite pronouns are singular (everyone, each), while others are plural (many, several). Be aware of these distinctions.

5. Be Wary of Collective Nouns

Depending on whether the collective noun is viewed as a single entity or as individuals, the verb might be singular or plural.

6. Recognize Complex Sentences

In sentences with subordinate clauses, ensure the verb agrees with the subject of the main clause, not the subordinate clause.

Examples and Analysis of Multiple Choice Questions

Let's analyze some sample questions to illustrate how to identify sentences where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject.

Example 1

Select the sentence where the underlined verb does NOT agree with its subject:

- a) The committee has made its decision.
- b) The students was excited about the trip.
- c) The package was delivered yesterday.
- d) Each of the players is required to attend practice.

Analysis:

Option b) contains a mismatch: "students" is plural, so the correct verb should be "were," not "was." Therefore, b) is the correct answer for this question.

Example 2

Identify the sentence where the underlined verb does NOT agree:

- a) The news is surprising.
- b) The staff are meeting in the conference room.
- c) Neither of the answers was correct.

d) The collection of stamps has increased over the years.

Analysis:

Option b) should use "is" instead of "are" because "staff" is a collective noun treated as singular in American English. Hence, b) is the sentence where agreement is incorrect.

Example 3

Choose the sentence with incorrect subject-verb agreement:

- a) The data indicates a significant trend.
- b) The couple are planning their vacation.
- c) The team wins every match.
- d) My family is going on holiday.

Analysis:

Option b) is correct in British English where "couple" is plural, but in American English, "couple" is generally treated as singular, so "are" would be incorrect. Depending on the dialect, this can vary. For clarity, in American English, b) is the correct answer as the verb should be "is."

Common Errors and How to Avoid Them

Identifying errors in subject-verb agreement requires awareness of typical pitfalls. Here are some common mistakes and tips to avoid them:

- Misidentifying the subject: Always find the main subject before the verb, ignoring phrases like "along with," "as well as," or "including."
- Ignoring intervening phrases: Phrases between the subject and verb can distract; focus on the main subject.
- Confusing collective nouns: Decide whether the noun is singular or plural based on context and dialect.
- Overlooking indefinite pronouns: Remember that words like "everyone" and "someone" are singular.
- Misreading compound subjects: Ensure correct agreement based on whether the subjects are joined by "and" or "or/nor."

Features and Benefits of Mastering Multiple Choice Subject-Verb Agreement

Features

- Focused practice through multiple-choice exercises
- Immediate feedback on identifying incorrect agreement
- Variety of sentence structures covering common pitfalls
- Emphasis on understanding grammatical rules rather than rote memorization

Pros

- Enhances grammatical accuracy in writing and speaking
- Improves test performance in language exams
- Builds a strong foundation for advanced grammar topics
- Encourages careful reading and critical analysis of sentences

Cons

- Multiple-choice questions may sometimes be ambiguous without context
- Overreliance on test formats can limit broader understanding
- Some exceptions to rules may cause confusion if not properly explained

Conclusion

The exercise of identifying sentences where the underlined verb does not agree with its subject is an effective way to reinforce understanding of subject-verb agreement rules. Through careful analysis of sentence structure, recognition of common pitfalls, and strategic approaches, learners can significantly improve their grammatical accuracy. Whether for academic exams, professional writing, or everyday communication, mastering this skill is essential for clear and correct expression in English.

By practicing with varied multiple-choice questions, paying close attention to the grammatical principles discussed, and applying the strategies outlined, you will become more confident in spotting agreement errors and enhancing your overall language proficiency. Remember, the key to success lies in understanding the rules, analyzing sentences critically, and continuously practicing to reinforce your skills.

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