



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

Coimbatore-35

An Autonomous Institution

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with ‘A+’ Grade

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

**19ENB101- COMMUNICATIVE
ENGLISH**

I YEAR / I SEMESTER

UNIT 1: Functional Grammar

TOPIC : Subject verb agreement





SUBJECT VERB AGREEMENT

- *Subject - person, place, thing or idea that is doing Or being something*

(Who is performing action?)



- *Verb-Action performed by the subject or state of being*

(What subject is performing?)



BASIC RULE



The verb and subject must agree in number

- *Singular subjects must have singular verb*

The dog chases the cat

- *Plural subjects take plural verbs*

The dogs chase the cat





RULE 1



The number of the subject(singular or plural) will not change due to words, phrases in between the subject and verb

- **One of the glasses is empty**
- **The bouquet of red roses smells so sweet**



RULE 2



- ***Subject that are joined by "and" take a plural verb.***

Eg- Radha and Meera are coming here

PLURAL VERB

When two singular nouns joined by 'and' refer to the same person or thing, the verb is singular.

The bread and butter is my favourite food.





RULE 3

A verb in a sentence containing or/either, neither/nor agrees with nounbor pronoun closes to it

- ***Neither the teacher nor the students come out***
- ***Neither the students nor the teacher comes out***

- ***All the cake is gone***
- ***All the cakes are gone***



RULE 4



Noncount nouns take a singular verb.

- **Education is the key to succes**
- **Diabetes affects many people around the world.**
- **The information obtained from the business owners was relevant to include in the study.**



RULE 4



*If a sentence begins with **HERE** or **THERE**, the verb agrees with the subject which follows it.*

- **Here comes (verb) the lion (singular subject)**
- **There is a pond (singular subject) near the house.**
- **There are some candies (Plural subject) on the table.**



RULE 5



If two subjects, one single and one plural, are connected by EITHER/OR or NEITHER/NOR, the verb agrees with the nearer subject.

Example

Neither the players nor the coach is joining.



Titles of books, movies, novels, and other similar works are treated as singular and take a singular verb.

Example

The Thousand and One Nights is a collection of Middle Eastern folk tales





RULE 6



A singular subject followed by intervening words or phrases such as WITH, AS WELL AS, IN ADDITION TO, ACCOMPANIED BY, TOGETHER WITH and NO LESS THAN, takes a singular verb.

Example

My teacher and friend is here.



Indefinite pronouns (everyone, each one, someone, somebody, no one, nobody, anyone, anybody etc.) are always singular.

Examples

Everyone is playing happily.





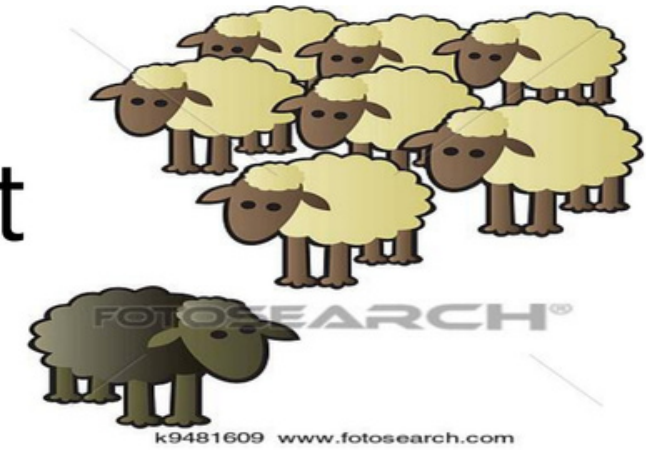
RULE 7



Collective nouns are usually regarded as singular subjects.

Example

A flock of sheep always moves together



The crowd enjoys the excitement in the game.



RULE 8



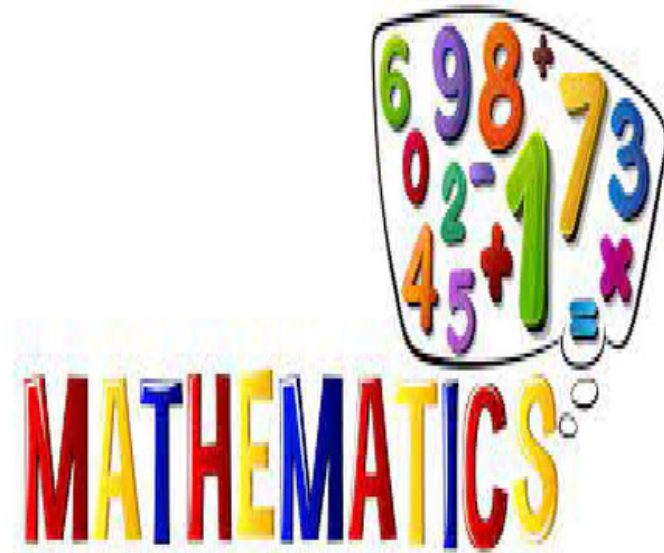
Certain nouns, though plural in form, are singular in meaning and therefore take singular verbs.

Examples

The latest news is alarming to the public



shutterstock.com • 1467310373



Mathematics is my favorite subject



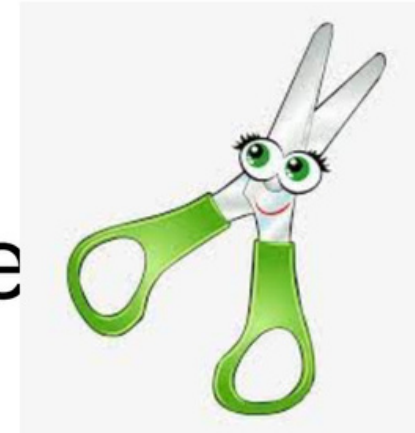
RULE 9



The following words are always plural: PANTS, TROUSERS, PLIERS, SCISSORS, SHEARS, TONGS. However, if the word PAIR is used, the verb is singular.

Examples

The pair of scissors was placed on the table



The pants are torn into two.





REFERENCE

<https://youtu.be/6L2XVxl1SmQ>

<https://youtu.be/5dNAffCFNNI>