

Review A: Subject-Verb Agreement

EXERCISE A Change each sentence according to the directions given in parentheses. Then, change the forms of verbs so that they agree with their subjects.

Example 1. ^{All farms} ~~Every farm~~ in this part of the country ^{have} ~~has~~ at least one tractor. (Change *Every farm* to

All farms.)

1. Today ^{almost no farm child knows} ~~very few farm children~~ know how to harness a team of horses. (Change *very few farm children* to *almost no farm child*.)
2. Sixty years ago, ^{a horse or a mule uses} ~~horses or mules~~ were essential for farming. (Change *horses or mules* to *a horse or a mule*.)
3. Most farm ^{machines} ~~machinery~~ at that time ^{were} ~~was~~ literally "horsepowered." (Change *machinery* to *machines*.)
4. Only about ^{one farm in ten was} ~~a tenth of the farms~~ were equipped with tractors. (Change *a tenth of the farms* to *one farm in ten*.)
5. The ^{Each farmer} ~~farmers~~ in this part of the country ^{was} ~~were~~ proud of ^{his/her} ~~their~~ horses. (Change *The farmers* to *Each farmer* and *their* to *his or her*.)

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, underline the correct verb in parentheses.

Example 1. Where (do, does) you practice basketball?

6. The study of foreign languages in the lower grades (is, are) becoming increasingly common.
7. Each student in the biology classes (has, have) visited the medical lab.
8. There (is, are) only a few more sandwiches left.
9. Forty-five dollars (is, are) the price of the new bike.
10. (Is, Are) each of the pictures painted by the same artist?
11. Every one of the club members (is, are) invited to the party.
12. Neither of the chairs (was, were) badly damaged in the fire.
13. Here (is, are) the books that you ordered.
14. Neither you nor he (was, were) ready to speak.
15. There (is, are) many more like this one.

Review B: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

EXERCISE A Change each sentence according to the directions given in parentheses. Then, change the forms of pronouns and verbs in the sentence if necessary.

Example 1. All of the students in the school district have received their fall schedules. (Change ^{Every student} ~~all of the students~~ to ^{has} ~~have~~ ^{his or her} ~~their~~.)

All of the students to Every student.)

1. The boys in Troop 95 spend some of their free time working at the recycling center. (Change ^{Each boy} ~~the boys~~ to ^{his} ~~their~~.)
The boys to Each boy.)
2. Rudi and one of her sisters are responsible for washing the dishes. (Change ^{or} ~~and~~ to ^{is} ~~are~~.)
3. This green butterfly and that blue one make their home primarily in South America. (Change ^{like that blue one, makes its} ~~and that blue one make~~ to ^{its} ~~their~~.)
This green butterfly and that blue one to This green butterfly, like that blue one.)
4. Stray cats or dogs frequently find their way to my door. (Change ^A ~~Stray cats or dogs~~ to ^{finds its} ~~find their~~.)
or dog.)
5. All of the contestants who answered their questions correctly won prizes. (Change ^{Each} ~~All of the contestants~~ to ^{his/her} ~~their~~.)
contestants to Each contestant.)

EXERCISE B Circle the antecedent in each sentence. Then, underline the pronoun or pronoun group in parentheses that agrees with the antecedent.

Example 1. (Everybody) in the chemistry lab must wear (their, his or her) safety goggles.

6. Many of the citizens have already paid (his or her, their) taxes.
7. Each of the committee members has voiced (his or her, their) opinion.
8. Alonzo and I planted the seeds and watered (it, them) carefully.
9. Neither Darlene nor Naomi has finished (her, their) term paper yet.
10. Because Luis is allergic to eggs, he avoids eating (it, them).
11. Each of the lost animals was returned to (its, their) owner.
12. Someone in the stands started stamping (his or her, their) feet loudly.
13. All of the workers were satisfied with (his or her, their) pay raises.
14. Evergreens are trees that do not shed (its, their) foliage in the fall.
15. Neither of the co-captains of the women's tennis team won (her, their) match.

Review C: Agreement

EXERCISE In most of the following sentences, a verb does not agree with its subject, or a pronoun does not agree with its antecedent. Cross out any incorrect verb or pronoun. Then, above it, write the correct form. If the sentence is already correct, write C next to its number.

Examples 1. Most were satisfied with ~~his~~^{their} or ~~her~~ grade.

2. A squirrel or a bird ~~have~~^{has} been eating the blackberries off the vine.

1. Neither potatoes nor rice ~~were~~^{was} my favorite dish.
2. One of your answers was incorrect. C
3. Either Marisa or he ~~are~~^{is} going to be the delegate to the conference.
4. One of the boys left ~~their~~^{his} raincoat on the bus.
5. Where ~~is~~^{are} the gifts you bought?
6. Neither her brothers nor she expects the team to win. C
7. His feelings after the defeat ~~was~~^{were} a combination of anger and disbelief.
8. Each of the delegates will pay ~~their~~^{his/her} own expenses.
9. There ~~was~~^{were} large quantities of surplus wheat in the grain elevators.
10. Two thirds of the day ~~were~~^{was} spent getting the car repaired.
11. Neither Marco nor Lisette ~~want~~^{wants} to go fishing this afternoon.
12. Most of the games at the fair are intended for very young children. C
13. Their hopes for a successful play ~~was~~^{were} shattered by poor reviews.
14. Each of the students chose ~~their~~^{his/her} own project.
15. A large crowd of people ~~was~~^{were} clapping their hands and cheering.
16. There ~~is~~^{are} always at least two librarians at the reference desk.
17. Every understudy who ~~plan~~^{plans} to succeed must be ready to perform at a moment's notice.
18. Not one of my classmates ~~were~~^{was} prepared for the surprise quiz.
19. Some of the coins on the table ~~belongs~~^{belong} to me.
20. One quarter of the students ~~want~~^{wants} to join the drama club.

Review D: Agreement

EXERCISE In each of these sentences, underline the correct word or words in parentheses.

Examples 1. My brother or one of my sisters (is, are) responsible for the daily care of the horses.

2. The soccer player who has the number 12 on (their, her) jersey is my sister.

1. Our family is proud of (~~their~~, its) ethnic traditions.
2. The crosstown bus (~~don't~~, doesn't) stop at Columbus Circle anymore.
3. The most valuable ingredient in any cook's soup is (~~their~~, his or her) secret spices.
4. (~~There's~~, There are) several candidates on the primary ballot.
5. (~~Don't~~, Doesn't) she have a cousin who writes scripts for television dramas?
6. Karen is one of the students who (~~enjoy~~, enjoys) swimming.
7. Every student and faculty member took (~~their~~, his or her) seat at the symposium.
8. *The Lower Depths* (was, were) written by the Russian playwright Maxim Gorki.
9. Two thousand dollars (is, are) the monthly rent for Dr. Simon's office.
10. My favorite team (has, have) never won the World Series.
11. Not one of the students turned in (his or her, their) assignment early.
12. The table that has a pile of books on (its, their) surface should be cleared.
13. Neither of the books (is, are) on the reading list.
14. Most of the students ate lunches that (they, he or she) had packed that morning.
15. The gleeful shrieking of the children (was, were) becoming annoying.
16. The horses that have (its, their) saddles on are ready for the rodeo.
17. My grandfather and his neighbors have formed (his, their) own neighborhood crime watch committee.
18. There (is, are) always several puppies and kittens at the shelter.
19. The computer that has (~~their~~, its) screensaver on is available for your use.
20. Neither a book nor a video movie (was, were) able to hold my attention last night.

WORKSHEET 5 Using *Who* and *Whom* (Rule 4 g)

EXERCISE A Underline the pronoun in parentheses that is correct in formal usage.

EXAMPLES 1. The customer asked to (*who*, *whom*) the check should be made payable.

2. We wanted to know (*who*, *whom*) was going to ride with us.

1. The boy [*who*, *whom*] Carlotta asked to the dance gave her a big corsage.
2. The Democrat is the candidate [for (*who*, *whom*) she voted.]
3. The Republican is the one [*who*, *whom*] I think [will be elected.]
4. The works of Ando Hiroshige, [*who*, *whom*] is considered the last great master of the Japanese color print, [influenced many French Impressionists.]
5. Mrs. Gomez asked me if I were the one [to (*who*, *whom*) she owed an apology.]
6. Louis Agassiz, [*who*, *whom*] was one of the greatest geologists, [studied the effects of slow-moving fields of ice on the earth's surface.]
7. You will have to ask someone [*who*, *whom*] knows a lot about fishing.]
8. Dr. Fowler, [*who*, *whom*] I respect, [does not recommend that medication.]
9. The pen pal [to (*who*, *whom*) I have been writing for years] is coming to visit me.
10. Naguib Mahfouz, [*who*, *whom*] I think [is a compelling novelist] is among the best-known fiction writers in the Arabic language.

EXERCISE B Underline the correct pronoun in each set of parentheses in the following paragraph.

EXAMPLE [1] Some people (*who*, *whom*) think they are invincible often equate adventure and danger.

Are you one of those people [1] [*who*, *whom*] think that accidents always happen to the other person? The people [to [2] (*who*, *whom*) serious accidents] occur seldom expect them. The accident victims [about [3] (*who*, *whom*) we read in the paper] did not deliberately plan to get injured. Few drivers [4] (*who*, *whom*) get into their cars and drive at excessive speeds [expect to be the ones [5] (*who*, *whom*) the police pull out of wrecks.]. The swimmers [6] (*who*, *whom*) take unnecessary risks [are the ones [for [7] (*who*, *whom*) warnings are useless.]. It's always the other person [8] (*who*, *whom*) they suppose [gets drowned.]. Fewer tragedies would occur if people [9] (*who*, *whom*) take chances [would stop to think that they might be the next ones [10] (*who*, *whom*) misfortune overtakes.].