

UNIT 3: SUBJECT / VERB AGREEMENT (and apostrophes)

Lesson 1: Verbs and their subjects must agree in number.

rule for Subjects → plural nouns have "s"
(dogs)

→ singular nouns have no "s"
(dog)

THE OPPOSITE IS TRUE FOR VERBS!

rule for verbs → Verbs with an "s" are singular

→ Verbs with no "s" are plural

1) label each verb as Singular (s) or plural (p)

2) label each subject as Singular (s) or plural (p)

EXAMPLE: is = singular

(he is...)

are = plural

(they are...)

rule: select the verb that agrees with the subject.

EX. Careless drivers (^sis, ^pare) our main problem.

IT is — sing.
THEY are — plur.

rule: Cross out prepositional phrases — they are NOT part of the subject

EX. One ~~of the many...~~ (^sis, ^pare) late.

Lesson 1 Practice:

- ① The neighbor^(S) ~~with the dogs~~^(S) (is, are)^(P) kind.
- * ② Important people^(P) (attend^(P), attends)^(S) the meeting.
- ③ The pieces^(P) ~~of the game~~^(S) (was, were)^(P) lost.

"IT" / "THEY" TEST:

Use "it" (singular) or "they" (plural) to test a verb if you need to.