

Grammar Explanation

Subject-Verb Agreement: Subjects with *and*, *or*, *each*, or *-ing*

Sometimes, it is not easy to determine whether the subject is plural or singular. Here are some rules:

- When the subject is two or more nouns connected by *and*, use the plural form of the verb.
 - Example: *Hard work and persistence are important qualities that most successful people have.*

- When the subject is two or more nouns connected by *or*, the verb agrees with the noun that is closer to the verb.
 - Example: *A passport or two identification cards are required for the application.*
 - Example: *Two identification cards or a passport is required for the application.*

- When using expressions such as *with*, *together with*, *including*, *as well as*, the verb agrees with the noun phrase that comes before these expressions.
 - Example: *The organizers, as well as the guest speaker, need to arrive early.*
 - Example: *The guest speaker, as well as the organizers, needs to arrive early.*

- When the subject includes *each*, *every*, *everyone*, *everybody*, *anybody*, *anyone*, *nobody*, *somebody*, *someone*, and *no one*, use the singular form of the verb.
 - Example: *Nobody expects the disgraced candidate to win the election.*

Excerpted from: Subject-Verb Agreement: Exercise 3