

Subject-Verb Agreement J

17n. Even when plural in form, the title of a creative work (such as a book, song, film, or painting), the name of an organization, or the name of a country or city generally takes a singular verb.

EXAMPLES *The Birds* **is** a scary but entertaining movie.
The **Los Angeles Lakers** **is** my favorite basketball team.

EXERCISE Underline the correct form of the verb in parentheses in each sentence.

Example 1. (Was, Were) *The Three Musketeers* made into a movie?

1. "Trees and Snow Fields" (*is, are*) the title of my poem.
2. Calico Creations (*is, are*) a crafts store owned by my aunt.
3. Hanging in the museum, *Water Lilies* (*was, were*) more beautiful than I expected.
4. (*Does, Do*) *Elements of Literature* contain excerpts from "The Raven" by Poe?
5. The Association of Veterans (*has, have*) an office on Crescent Street.
6. Written by Nancy Farmer, *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* (*takes, take*) place in Zimbabwe.
7. Founded in 1860, Alice Springs (*is, are*) a town in Australia.
8. *Anna and David* (*was, were*) painted on steel and aluminum by the artist Miriam Schapiro.
9. (*Is, Are*) the Parks and Recreation Department located in this building?
10. The Ganges (*is, are*) a river in northern India.
11. The Blenville Junior High Fighting Falcons (*was, were*) named best football team.
12. At the video store, *101 Dalmatians* (*was, were*) not on the shelf.
13. Pets Helping Humans (*sponsors, sponsor*) a pet adoption day each month.
14. Rising Hills (*is, are*) my hometown.
15. The Panthers (*is, are*) the name of my little sister's soccer team.
16. Daughters of Mercy Hospital (*accepts, accept*) teenage volunteers.
17. The United States (*shares, share*) a border with Canada.
18. The Harlem Globetrotters (*was, were*) formed in 1927.
19. Painted on silk by Toko, *Cat and Spider* (*shows, show*) a fluffy gray cat stalking a spider.
20. *The Fat-Cats at Sea* (*is, are*) a book of funny poems about cats sailing to the Island of Goo.

13. The audience (^P*was, were*) taking notes, sitting quietly, or sleeping.
14. The fleet (^S*sail, sails*) home tomorrow.
15. The group of students (^S*sit, sits*) one by one on the bench outside the school.
16. (^P*Are, Is*) the visiting chorus staying at several guest houses?
17. During the semester the faculty (^P*is, are*) helping the students with fund-raisers. [or During the semester the faculty (^S*is, are*) helping the students with fund-raisers.]
18. The faculty (^P*is, are*) meeting with their team captains in their classrooms.
19. The flock (^S*fly, flies*) over this area each autumn.
20. The set (^P*is, are*) all in perfect condition except for the one you cracked.

Subject-Verb Agreement H, p. 151

EXERCISE A

- Here (*is, are*) the worksheets for today's class.
- (*There's, There are*) an answer key in the locked desk drawer.
- On the chalkboard (*is, are*) written the instructions.
- Where (*is, are*) the other assignments for the class?
- Oh, there (*is, are*) the dictionary.
- (*Who's, Who are*) the student assistant today?
- (*Is, Are*) both of you assistants?
- Over here (*is, are*) the papers for the students.

- (*Was, Were*) there enough copies for everyone?
- (*Here's, Here are*) one more copy.

EXERCISE B

- There are several places in need of volunteers in our community.
- What is the types of volunteer activities available?
- Here's a list of community centers and hospitals.
- On one of these pages are a parental consent form.
- There's several locations in immediate need of your help.

Subject-Verb Agreement I, p. 152

EXERCISE

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|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1. Is | 8. are | 15. is |
| 2. is | 9. is | 16. Are |
| 3. have | 10. was | 17. was |
| 4. was | 11. Was | 18. is |
| 5. equals | 12. is | 19. makes |
| 6. is | 13. were | 20. is |
| 7. Does | 14. is | |

Subject-Verb Agreement J, p. 153

EXERCISE

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|----------|--------------|
| 1. is | 11. was |
| 2. is | 12. was |
| 3. was | 13. sponsors |
| 4. Does | 14. is |
| 5. has | 15. is |
| 6. takes | 16. accepts |
| 7. is | 17. shares |
| 8. was | 18. was |
| 9. Is | 19. shows |
| 10. is | 20. is |