

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT

In English sentences, subjects and verbs must agree in number (singular or plural). Being able to find the subject of the sentence will help you identify and correct subject-verb agreement errors.

Typically, first person singular and plural (I, we) and second person singular and plural (you) take plural verbs: I go to the gym. We study at the library. You write very well.

Third person singular subject takes a singular verb and a plural subject takes a plural verb:

Third person singular and singular verb		Third person plural and plural verb	
He	He runs to his school.	They	They run to school.
Maryam	Maryam eats apples.	Maryam and Omar	Maryam and Omar eat apples.
The bus	The bus is new.	The buses	The buses are new.

SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT RULES

Below are the most common subject-verb agreement errors we see at the Writing Center. For each, we

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4. Plural subjects with a singular meaning (Mumps, measles, news, physics, etc.) take singular verbs.

Mumps is a contagious disease.

Even though Mumps