

SENTENCES Subject / Verb

SUBJECT / VERB AGREEMENT RULES ENSURE THE COMPONENTS OF YOUR SENTENCE MATCH

PLURAL SUBJECT: USE VERB WITH NO S

SINGULAR SUBJECT: USE VERB WITH S

CORRECT

She types on her laptop

They type on their laptops

INCORRECT

Michael make mistakes

Children says the funniest things

ADVANCED

RULE	EXAMPLE
When the subject of a sentence is composed of two or more nouns or pronouns connected by and, use a plural verb.	<i>She and her friends are at the fair.</i>
Doesn't is a contraction of does not = singular subject. Don't is a contraction of do not = plural subject. EXCEPTION: I / YOU	<i>He doesn't like it.</i> <i>They don't like it. Cats don't like dogs.</i> <i>I / you don't like it</i>
The words each, each one, either, neither, everyone, everybody, anybody, anyone, nobody, somebody, someone, and no one are singular and require a singular verb.	<i>Each of these hot dogs is juicy.</i> <i>Everybody knows Mr. Jones.</i> <i>Either is correct.</i>
Nouns such as civics, mathematics, dollars, measles, and news require singular verbs.	<i>The news is on at six.</i>
Nouns such as scissors, tweezers, trousers, and shears require plural verbs. (There are two parts to these things.)	<i>These scissors are dull.</i> <i>Those trousers are made of wool.</i>
In sentences beginning with there is or there are, the subject follows the verb.	<i>There are many questions.</i> <i>There is a question.</i>
Collective nouns, such as team, committee, class, and family are words that imply more than one person but that are considered singular and take a singular verb.	<i>The committee decides how to proceed.</i> <i>My family has never been able to agree.</i>