

4. Subject is connected by 'or', 'nor', 'either . . . or', 'neither . . . nor' words

4.1 If singular subjects are joined by 'or', 'nor', 'either. . .or', 'neither. . .nor', use a **singular verb**.

Example

- ✓ **Neither** the woman **nor** the child >>>>>> **is** out of danger.
COMBINED SINGULAR SUBJECT SINGULAR VERB

4.2 If plural subjects are joined by 'or', 'nor', 'either. . .or', 'neither. . .nor', use a **plural verb**.

Example

- ✓ **Neither** the women **nor** the children >>>>>> **are** out of danger.
COMBINED PLURAL SUBJECT PLURAL VERB

4.3 If one subject is singular and one is plural, the verb agrees with the **subject nearest to it**.

Examples

- ✓ **Neither** the women **nor** the child >>>>>> **is** out of danger.
MIX OF PLURAL & SINGULAR SUBJECT SINGULAR VERB
- ✓ **Neither** the woman **nor** the children >>>>>> **are** out of danger.
MIX OF SINGULAR & PLURAL SUBJECT PLURAL VERB

5. Subject is a special type of pronoun

5.1 When you use the pronouns 'each', 'either', 'neither', 'another', 'anyone', 'anybody', 'anything', 'someone', 'somebody', 'something', 'one', 'everyone', 'everybody', 'everything', 'no one', 'nobody', 'nothing', use a **singular verb**.

Example

- ✓ **Everyone** in the group >>>>>> **has** a job to do.
SINGULAR SUBJECT SINGULAR VERB

5.2 When you use the pronouns 'both', 'many', 'few', 'several', 'other', use a **plural verb**.

Example

- ✓ **Many** of the people in the group >>>>>> **work** consistently.
PLURAL SUBJECT PLURAL VERB

5.3 Words like 'none', 'any', 'all', 'more', 'most', 'some' use **singular or plural verbs**, depending on the context.

Examples

- ✓ **All** of the cake **was** eaten by the children. (*singular*)
- ✓ **All** of the cakes **were** eaten by the children. (*plural*)

6. Subject is a collective noun or non-count noun

6.1 A **collective noun** is a word used to refer to a group of people/things (e.g., team, committee, family, crowd, audience, government). If the noun is considered as a single unit, use a **singular verb**.

Example

- ✓ The **government** of the day >>>>>> **was** responsible for regulating petrol prices.
COLLECTIVE NOUN/SINGULAR SUBJECT SINGULAR VERB

6.2 A **non-count noun** (e.g. statistics, furniture, sugar, water, news) uses a **singular verb**.

Example

- ✓ **Statistics**, for most students, >>>>>> **is** a difficult subject.
NON-COUNT/SINGULAR SUBJECT SINGULAR VERB