

## Review A: Subject-Verb Agreement

**EXERCISE A** Change the following sentences according to the directions given in parentheses. If necessary, change the forms of verbs, pronouns, or other words in the sentences. Cross out words you are changing, and write the new words above the old words.

**Example 1.** Of all the students in my class, ~~perhaps one or two enjoy~~<sup>only one enjoys</sup> being the star of the class play. (Change *perhaps one or two* to *only one*.)

1. Most of the students in the class want to work on the play, however. (Change *Most of the students* to *Almost every student*.)
2. There is at least one major speaking role in this year's play. (Change *at least one major speaking role* to *several major speaking roles*.)
3. The hero and the heroine, naturally, have more lines than the supporting members of the cast. (Change *The hero and the heroine* to *The hero or the heroine*.)
4. Two of my friends were thrilled that they were assigned to the stage crew. (Change *Two* to *One*.)
5. At every performance of our play, two of my three lines earn laughs from the audience. (Change *two* to *one*.)

**EXERCISE B** In most of the following sentences, a verb does not agree with its subject. Strike through each wrong verb. Then, write the correct form above it. If a verb form is already correct, write C above it.

**Example 1.** Nancy and her sister ~~has~~<sup>have</sup> tickets to the play.

6. My aunt and I like to play tennis, although neither of us are really very good at it.
7. Everybody likes to spend some free time relaxing.
8. Some of the prize-winning costumes was very original.
9. Mathematics are an easy subject for some students, but to most students either history or English seems easier.
10. Everybody in the movie theater were laughing hysterically.
11. The chef and his assistant cooks excellent dishes.
12. Neither the waiters nor the cook expect customers to return food.
13. Paul's closest friend doesn't find him to be ill-tempered.
14. My family agrees that our last two trips was a big success.
15. Here's the pictures we took at the beach.

## Review B: Pronoun-Antecedent Agreement

**EXERCISE** Complete each sentence by underlining the pronoun that agrees with its antecedent. Then, underline the antecedent twice. If the antecedent is a relative pronoun, circle the word to which the relative pronoun refers.

**Example 1.** How many people who have (*his or her, their*) driver's licenses live in a big city?

1. I like studying economics. I find (*them, it*) very interesting.
2. Each of my three stepsisters will update (*their, her*) diary tonight.
3. Neither Jane nor Clarissa will say what (*their, her*) middle name is.
4. The jazz musicians won great praise for (*its, their*) remarkable performance.
5. Startled by the thunder, the flock of sheep huddled against each other and made (*its, their*) way to shelter.
6. Sarah Vaughan, a popular jazz singer, was known for (*her, their*) rich voice and inventive ability to improvise.
7. One half of the musicians arrived late. I think (*they, it*) must have gotten caught in the traffic.
8. One of my brothers said that (*they, he*) just had a haircut.
9. Lola or Carmen will bring salad to the potluck dinner on Friday night. (*She, They*) will also pick up Rafael on the way.
10. Alex is a man who treats all of (*their, his*) friends with a great deal of respect.
11. The flock of sea gulls descended one by one to (*their, its*) nests on the cliff.
12. Our teacher said that physics will fascinate us. (*They, It*) is a very important area of study.
13. Nearly one fifth of the players received (*its, their*) awards for outstanding performance.
14. Most of this shoreline and (*their, its*) natural beauty is under threat.
15. Li-yun and Chao, two Taiwanese friends of mine, invited us to dinner at (*her, their*) grandparents' home.
16. The car that had (*its, her*) headlights on would no longer start.
17. Few of the boys had time to eat (*his, their*) lunch before the bell rang.
18. Many consider "St. Louis Blues" a classic song. I believe (*it, they*) must be admired by many.
19. My grandfather said that fifteen dollars was a lot of money to pay for a CD. He would never pay (*it, them*).
20. The class gathered all (*its, their*) backpacks and headed toward the auditorium for the assembly.

## Review C: Subject-Verb and Pronoun-Antecedent

**EXERCISE** For each of the following sentences, underline the correct form of the verb or pronoun in parentheses.

**Example 1.** Two thirds of our assignment (has, have) been completed.

1. Almost every game we play in gym (*is*, *are*) strenuous.
2. The jury believes that (*it*, *they*) may have reached a decision.
3. Few people claim that iguanas or lizards (*is*, *are*) among their favorite pets.
4. In this band everyone can play (*their*, *his* or *her*) favorite instrument.
5. In this novel, there (*is*, *are*) at least one main theme.
6. If I get home before 3:00 P.M., my sister or my brother (*don't*, *doesn't*) have to walk the dog.
7. Visitors who eat in (*its*, *their*) hotel rooms will miss a great deal of sightseeing.
8. Neither Jim nor Matt knew that (*his*, *their*) wallet had been lost.
9. Based on his first trip to the United States, Dickens' *American Notes* (*is*, *are*) widely read.
10. The researcher announced that genetics (*is*, *are*) going to be the topic of the next seminar.
11. Despite many hours of grueling practice, neither of the teams (*is*, *are*) ready for the playoffs.
12. All of the birds who visited our birdbath chirped happily while (*it*, *they*) bathed.
13. Don't you think that 70 percent of the votes (*is*, *are*) going to be in our favor?
14. Either Lucia or Susan will need to call (*their*, *her*) parents for a ride.
15. (*Has*, *Have*) Tanya and Jeffrey been told about the change in plans?
16. Many a neighbor (*decorate*, *decorates*) his or her yard for the holiday.
17. Most of the money (*are*, *is*) in the bank account.
18. Both of the books were recommended by the librarian. I had already read (*it*, *them*) last year.
19. Very few of the boys played as well as (*he*, *they*) could.
20. Lists of terms relating to economics (*appears*, *appear*) in that book of technical jargon.