Verb Match Detectives

Sort sentences by subject-verb agreement.

ELA.7.C.3.1 "Follow the rules of standard English grammar, punctuation, capitalization, and spelling appropriate to grade level."

NAME _____ DATE _____

AGREEMENT WORKS

The verb agrees with its subject. A singular subject takes a singular verb, and a plural subject takes a plural verb.

Lanterns glow nightly.

AGREEMENT NEEDS A FIX

The verb does not agree with its subject. Change the verb so it matches the subject.

Lanterns glows nightly.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CORRECT or REVISE for each sentence, then choose two items and explain how the subject and verb match or do not match.

1. The basket of apples sits by the door. CORRECT REVISE

2. Each of the science kits needs fresh batteries. CORRECT REVISE

3. The musicians rehearses after school. CORRECT REVISE

4. My cousins and I visit the museum often. CORRECT REVISE

5. The clouds above the hills looks dark. CORRECT REVISE

6. The box of old photographs were dusty. CORRECT REVISE

7. Neither of the answers seems reasonable. CORRECT REVISE

8. The color of the leaves change quickly. CORRECT REVISE

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one new CORRECT sentence and one new REVISE sentence about subject-verb agreement.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Write a correct sentence with a compound subject and a verb that agrees with it.

ANSWER KEY

Verb Match Detectives

GRADE 7 · ELA.7.C.3.1

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The basket of apples sits by the door.	**CORRECT**	The singular subject, basket, matches the singular verb sits.
2	Each of the science kits needs fresh batteries.	**CORRECT**	The singular subject, each, matches the singular verb needs.
3	The musicians rehearses after school.	**REVISE**	The plural subject, musicians, needs the plural verb rehearse.
4	My cousins and I visit the museum often.	**CORRECT**	The plural compound subject matches the plural verb visit.
5	The clouds above the hills looks dark.	**REVISE**	The plural subject, clouds, needs the plural verb look.
6	The box of old photographs were dusty.	**REVISE**	The singular subject, box, needs the singular verb was.
7	Neither of the answers seems reasonable.	**CORRECT**	The singular subject, neither, matches the singular verb seems.
8	The color of the leaves change quickly.	**REVISE**	The singular subject, color, needs the singular verb changes.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT**: A comet appears at dusk.
- **REVISE**: Several turtles swims toward shore.

Challenge: Lena and Omar pack their lunches.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Part 2, accept explanations that correctly identify the subject and tell whether the verb agrees with it. In item 6, photographs is part of a prepositional phrase, so box is the subject.