

Verb Match Detectives

Check whether each subject matches its verb.

10.L.GC.1 "Grammar, Usage, & Mechanics: Draw from knowledge of the conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics when analyzing, evaluating, and constructing texts."

NAME _____

DATE _____

SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE

The subject and verb match in number. A singular subject takes a singular verb, and a plural subject takes a plural verb.

My cousin writes poems nightly.

SUBJECT AND VERB DISAGREE

The subject and verb do not match in number. Check the main subject, not a nearby noun.

Those recipes was tasty.

1 SORT

8 items

For Part 1, circle AGREES or DISAGREES for each sentence; for Part 2, choose two sentences and explain how the subject and verb agree or disagree in number.

1. The stack of journals belongs on the shelf.

AGREES

DISAGREES

2. The neighbors across the street watches the parade.

AGREES

DISAGREES

3. One of the hikers carry a map.

AGREES

DISAGREES

4. Each of the paintings needs a protective frame.

AGREES

DISAGREES

5. The bouquet of roses smells sweet.

AGREES

DISAGREES

6. The engines in the garage needs repairs.

AGREES

DISAGREES

7. A collection of rare coins is displayed upstairs.

AGREES

DISAGREES

8. The musicians rehearse after school.

AGREES

DISAGREES

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 sentence whose subject and verb AGREE, then write one new sentence whose subject and verb DISAGREE.

AGREES _____

DISAGREES _____

CHALLENGE

Revise one DISAGREES sentence from Part 1 so its subject and verb agree, then explain the change you made.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The stack of journals belongs on the shelf.	AGREES	The main subject, stack, is singular, so belongs is correct.
2	The neighbors across the street watches the parade.	DISAGREES	Neighbors is plural, so the verb should be watch.
3	One of the hikers carry a map.	DISAGREES	One is singular, so the verb should be carries.
4	Each of the paintings needs a protective frame.	AGREES	Each is singular, so needs is correct.
5	The bouquet of roses smells sweet.	AGREES	The main subject, bouquet, is singular, so smells is correct.
6	The engines in the garage needs repairs.	DISAGREES	Engines is plural, so the verb should be need.
7	A collection of rare coins is displayed upstairs.	AGREES	The main subject, collection, is singular, so is is correct.
8	The musicians rehearse after school.	AGREES	Musicians is plural, so rehearse is correct.

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)

- **AGREES:** The sculpture stands near the fountain.
- **DISAGREES:** The cables under the stage is tangled.

Challenge: The neighbors across the street watch the parade. I changed watches to watch because neighbors is plural.

AGREES: 1, 4, 5, 7, 8. DISAGREES: 2, 3, 6. Remind students to identify the main subject before choosing the verb.