Verb Match Detectives

Find sentences whose subjects and verbs agree.

4.L.GC.2.c "Use correct subject-verb agreement to consistently achieve clarity in a variety of sentences. (C)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

MATCHES

The subject and verb agree. A singular subject needs a singular verb, and a plural subject needs a plural verb.

One astronaut floats near Mars.

FIX IT

The subject and verb do not agree. Change the verb so it matches the subject.

Several candles flickers beside a window.

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, circle MATCHES or FIX IT, then choose two items and explain how the subject and verb helped you decide.

1. The row of tulips blooms in spring. MATCHES FIX IT

2. My cousins play chess after dinner. MATCHES FIX IT

3. The jar of buttons are heavy. MATCHES FIX IT

4. A package of seeds arrives today. MATCHES FIX IT

5. Each of the players wear a helmet. MATCHES FIX IT

6. The birds in the tree sings at dawn. MATCHES FIX IT

7. The captain of the team leads warm-ups. MATCHES FIX IT

8. The noisy puppies bark at the moon. MATCHES FIX IT

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 MATCHES sentence and one new FIX IT sentence.

MATCHES _____

FIX IT _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite this sentence so both verbs match their subjects: The box of crayons are on the table, and the markers needs new caps.

ANSWER KEY # Verb Match Detectives

GRADE 4 · 4.L.GC.2.c

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The row of tulips blooms in spring.	**MATCHES**	The singular subject, row, matches blooms.
2	My cousins play chess after dinner.	**MATCHES**	The plural subject, cousins, matches play.
3	The jar of buttons are heavy.	**FIX IT**	Jar is singular, so are should be is.
4	A package of seeds arrives today.	**MATCHES**	The singular subject, package, matches arrives.
5	Each of the players wear a helmet.	**FIX IT**	Each is singular, so wear should be wears.
6	The birds in the tree sings at dawn.	**FIX IT**	Birds is plural, so sings should be sing.
7	The captain of the team leads warm-ups.	**MATCHES**	The singular subject, captain, matches leads.
8	The noisy puppies bark at the moon.	**MATCHES**	The plural subject, puppies, matches bark.

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)

- **MATCHES**: The lantern shines in the hallway.
- **FIX IT**: The cookies tastes sweet.

Challenge: The box of crayons is on the table, and the markers need new caps.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Answers: 1 MATCHES, 2 MATCHES, 3 FIX IT, 4 MATCHES, 5 FIX IT, 6 FIX IT, 7 MATCHES, 8 MATCHES. In Part 2, students should name the subject and tell whether it is singular or plural before explaining the matching verb.