Find the Match

Sort sentences by subject-verb agreement.

8.W "Students compose writing and presentations for various genres which demonstrate a command of English grammar and usage through the writing and research processes."

NAME _____ DATE _____

SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE

A singular subject takes a singular present-tense verb, and a plural subject takes a plural present-tense verb. Ignore words between the subject and verb when you check the match.

The lanterns beside the path glow at dusk.

SUBJECT AND VERB DO NOT AGREE

The present-tense verb does not match the subject. Find the main subject instead of matching the verb to a nearby noun.

The painter near the murals sketch every night.

1 SORT

8 items

Circle AGREES or CLASHES for each sentence, then choose two items and explain how you knew.

1.	The list of supplies are on my desk.	AGREES CLASHES
2.	The musicians in the hallway practice daily.	AGREES CLASHES
3.	Each of the answers fits the question.	AGREES CLASHES
4.	The pages in the book is torn.	AGREES CLASHES
5.	The basket of towels sits by the door.	AGREES CLASHES
6.	The signs near the bridge point left.	AGREES CLASHES
7.	The recipe for these muffins calls for cinnamon.	AGREES CLASHES
8.	The players on the team runs laps.	AGREES CLASHES

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 in which the subject and verb agree and one in which they clash.

AGREES _____

CLASHES _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one CLASHES item, rewrite it so the subject and verb agree, and name the subject and corrected verb.

ANSWER KEY # Find the Match

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The list of supplies are on my desk.	**CLASHES**	The singular subject list needs is, not are.
2	The musicians in the hallway practice daily.	**AGREES**	The plural subject musicians matches practice.
3	Each of the answers fits the question.	**AGREES**	The singular subject each matches fits.
4	The pages in the book is torn.	**CLASHES**	The plural subject pages needs are, not is.
5	The basket of towels sits by the door.	**AGREES**	The singular subject basket matches sits.
6	The signs near the bridge point left.	**AGREES**	The plural subject signs matches point.
7	The recipe for these muffins calls for cinnamon.	**AGREES**	The singular subject recipe matches calls.
8	The players on the team runs laps.	**CLASHES**	The plural subject players needs run, not runs.

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 stack of notebooks belongs in the cabinet.
- **CLASHES**: The bicycles by the fence needs new tires.

Challenge: The list of supplies is on my desk. Subject: list. Corrected verb: is.

For Part 2, students should identify the subject and explain whether its number matches the verb. For example, in item 4, pages is plural, but is is singular.