

Verb Match Detectives

Spot the subject, then check the verb.

6.LU.1.D "Use phrases and clauses within a sentence and apply appropriate subject-verb agreement when speaking and writing."

NAME _____

DATE _____

SUBJECT AND VERB AGREE

The verb matches the subject in number. A phrase or clause near the subject does not change whether the verb is singular or plural.

The basket of apples rests on a bench.

SUBJECT AND VERB DISAGREE

The verb does not match the subject in number. Check the main subject, not a noun inside a nearby phrase or clause.

The musicians in the parade plays a song.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle AGREES or DISAGREES, then for Part 2 choose two item numbers and explain how you knew.

1. The box of old maps is heavy.

AGREES

DISAGREES

2. The students in the hallway wait quietly.

AGREES

DISAGREES

3. The stack of towels are on the shelf.

AGREES

DISAGREES

4. The keys that open the shed are missing.

AGREES

DISAGREES

5. The list of supplies need updating.

AGREES

DISAGREES

6. The birds near the fountain chirps loudly.

AGREES

DISAGREES

7. The recipe with three steps seems simple.

AGREES

DISAGREES

8. The lights in the auditorium shines brightly.

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 that AGREES and one new sentence that DISAGREES.

AGREES _____

DISAGREES _____

CHALLENGE

Write one correct sentence with a phrase or clause between the subject and verb. Underline the subject and circle the verb.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The box of old maps is heavy.	AGREES	The main subject is box, which is singular, so is agrees.
2	The students in the hallway wait quietly.	AGREES	The main subject is students, which is plural, so wait agrees.
3	The stack of towels are on the shelf.	DISAGREES	The main subject is stack, which is singular, so it needs is, not are.
4	The keys that open the shed are missing.	AGREES	The main subject is keys, which is plural, so are agrees.
5	The list of supplies need updating.	DISAGREES	The main subject is list, which is singular, so it needs needs, not need.
6	The birds near the fountain chirps loudly.	DISAGREES	The main subject is birds, which is plural, so it needs chirp, not chirps.
7	The recipe with three steps seems simple.	AGREES	The main subject is recipe, which is singular, so seems agrees.
8	The lights in the auditorium shines brightly.	DISAGREES	The main subject is lights, which is plural, so it needs shine, not shines.

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 tray of muffins smells warm.
- **DISAGREES:** The hikers on the trail walks slowly.

Challenge: __The captain__, along with the sailors, (guides) the tour boat.

For Part 2, students should name the main subject and explain whether the verb is singular or plural. Accept different correct sentences in Part 3 and the challenge if the stated agreement category and markings are accurate.