

SUBJECT FOLLOWING VERB

When the subject follows the verb, you must think ahead to the subject to decide whether the verb is to be singular or plural.

This problem arises in sentences beginning with **There** and **Here**. It also arises in questions beginning with **Who**, **Why**, **Where**, **What**, and **How**.

Incorrect Here's the records.

Correct Here are the records.

Incorrect There's my brothers now.

Correct There are my brothers now.

Incorrect Who's the women at the window?

Correct Who are the women at the window?

Incorrect What are the solution to your problems?

Correct What's the solution to your problems?

Choosing the Standard Verb Form. In each of the sentences below, underline the correct form.

Example: (What's , What are) the problem?

1. (Here's , Here are) the apples you ordered.
2. (Who's , Who are) your bosses at the plant?
3. (What's , What are) your suggestion?
4. In the car (was , were) Helen and her brother.
5. (There's , There are) four people who have been elected to office.
6. (Here's , Here are) the sweet roll you wanted.
7. (How's , How are) all your tropical fish?
8. (Why's , Why are) the student late today?
9. (There's , There are) milk and cake on the table.
10. (Who's , Who are) the boys on the track team?
11. Near the highway (was , were) an old house and a barn.
12. Behind the counter (stands , stand) the clerk and the store manager.
13. (What's , What are) the joke you were going to tell me?
14. (Why's , Why are) his songs always so sad?
15. (Here's , Here are) the fried chicken and salad you ordered.
16. In front of us (was , were) a cute little boy.
17. (Here's , Here are) the shoes you left by the door.
18. Outside the door (barks, bark) the dog.
19. (What's , What are) your reasons for making that statement?
20. (What's , What are) your answers to the questions?

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