

AGREEMENT IN NUMBER (II)

The verb agrees only with its subject. Occasionally a word with a different number from that of the subject occurs between the subject and the verb. This word or group of words does not change the number of the verb even though it is closer to the verb than the subject is.

One of the boys has gone camping. (*one* is the subject.)

The ball, thrown by the boys, has gone through the Browns' window. (*ball* is the subject.)

The words *with*, *together with*, *along with*, *as well as* are prepositions. The objects of these prepositions have no effect upon the number of the verb.

The teacher, along with the student, has gone out for fire drill. (*teacher* is the subject.)

My aunt, along with my cousins, is visiting us. (*aunt* is the subject.)

Choosing the Standard Verb Form. Underline the standard verb form for each of the following sentences.

1. The members of the band (has, have) arrived for practice.
2. The price of houses (keeps, keep) increasing every year.
3. The twins, along with their mother, (is, are) going to the exhibit.
4. One of the women (is, are) planning to give a karate demonstration.
5. (Has, Have) the pair of earrings been found?
6. The sale of shirts (has, have) been scheduled for next Monday.
7. Tom, together with three friends, (is, are) going camping next week.
8. The directors of the bank (is, are) meeting at ten o'clock.
9. One of the books (tells, tell) about George Washington Carver.
10. The library, with its thousands of books, (is, are) free to all.
11. Ms. Taylor, along with the other teachers, (is, are) attending a convention.
12. The chairman of the board, together with the directors, (is, are) now coming into the room.
13. The girls in the glee club (was, were) planning a concert.
14. My cousin, along with her friends, (is, are) planning to be in Washington next week.
15. Mrs. Thomas, together with other members of the club, (is, are) planning a golf tournament.
16. The seats in the first-grade classroom (was, were) very small.
17. Delivery of the groceries (is, are) being made today.
18. Susan, as well as her neighbors, (is, are) planning a garage sale.
19. The package of Christmas presents, (has, have) not arrived yet.
20. My order for the oranges (was, were) placed last week.

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