

Name: _____

Subject-Verb Agreement

The subject of a sentence must agree with the verb.

Notice the verbs in the two sentences below.

Ben reads a book.

Ben and Sam read a book.

In the first sentence, only one person is reading, so the present tense verb is "reads."
The verb (reads) agrees with the subject (Ben).

In the second sentence, two people are reading, so the present tense verb is "read."
The verb (read) agrees with the subject (Ben and Sam).

Read each sentence below. Choose the correct verb that agrees with the subject.

1. Billy _____ to buy a new skateboard. (want, wants)
2. Those two boys _____ to buy new skateboards. (want, wants)
3. Grandpa _____ a hamburger for dinner. (cook, cooks)
4. Grandma and Grandpa _____ dinner together. (cook, cooks)
5. The dogs _____ when the mail carrier comes. (growl, growls)
6. The brown dog _____ when someone comes in. (growl, growls)
7. All three computers _____ when you turn them on. (beep, beeps)
8. That computer _____ when you turn it on. (beep, beeps)
9. The basketball _____ across the court. (roll, rolls)
10. Three tennis balls _____ across the court. (roll, rolls)

ANSWER KEY

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In the first sentence, only one person is reading, so the present tense verb is “reads.”
The verb (reads) agrees with the subject (Ben).

In the second sentence, two people are reading, so the present tense verb is “read.”
The verb (read) agrees with the subject (Ben and Sam).

Read each sentence below. Choose the correct verb that agrees with the subject.

1. Billy wants to buy a new skateboard. (want, wants)
2. Those two boys want to buy new skateboards. (want, wants)
3. Grandpa cooks a hamburger for dinner. (cook, cooks)
4. Grandma and Grandpa cook dinner together. (cook, cooks)
5. The dogs growl when the mail carrier comes. (growl, growls)
6. The brown dog growls when someone comes in. (growl, growls)
7. All three computers beep when you turn them on. (beep, beeps)
8. That computer beeps when you turn it on. (beep, beeps)
9. The basketball rolls across the court. (roll, rolls)
10. Three tennis balls roll across the court. (roll, rolls)