Subject-Verb Agreement J

Even when plural in form, the title of a creative work (such as a book, song, film, or painting), the name of an organization, or the name of a country or city generally takes a singular verb.

**EXAMPLES**  
*The Birds* is a scary but entertaining movie.  
The *Los Angeles Lakers* is my favorite basketball team.

**EXERCISE**  
Underline the correct form of the verb in parentheses in each sentence.

Example 1.  
(Was, Were) *The Three Musketeers* made into a movie?

1.  
“Trees and Snow Fields” *is, are* the title of my poem.

2.  
*Calico Creations* *is, are* a crafts store owned by my aunt.

3.  
Hanging in the museum, *Water Lilies* *was, were* more beautiful than I expected.

4.  
(Does, Do) *Elements of Literature* contain excerpts from “The Raven” by Poe?

5.  
*The Association of Veterans* *has, have* an office on Crescent Street.

6.  
Written by Nancy Farmer, *The Ear, the Eye, and the Arm* *takes, take* place in Zimbabwe.

7.  
Founded in 1860, *Alice Springs* *is, are* a town in Australia.

8.  
*Anna and David* *was, were* painted on steel and aluminum by the artist Miriam Schapiro.

9.  
(Is, Are) the Parks and Recreation Department located in this building?

10.  
The Ganges *is, are* a river in northern India.

11.  
The Blenville Junior High Fighting Falcons *was, were* named best football team.

12.  
At the video store, *101 Dalmatians* *was, were* not on the shelf.

13.  
*Pets Helping Humans* *sponsors, sponsor* a pet adoption day each month.

14.  
Rising Hills *is, are* my hometown.

15.  
The Panthers *is, are* the name of my little sister’s soccer team.

16.  
*Daughters of Mercy Hospital* *accepts, accept* teenage volunteers.

17.  
The United States *shares, share* a border with Canada.

18.  
The Harlem Globetrotters *was, were* formed in 1927.

19.  
Painted on silk by Toko, *Cat and Spider* *shows, show* a fluffy gray cat stalking a spider.

20.  
*The Fat-Cats at Sea* *is, are* a book of funny poems about cats sailing to the Island of Goo.
13. The audience (was, were) taking notes, sitting quietly, or sleeping.

14. The fleet (sail, sails) home tomorrow.

15. The group of students (sit, sits) one by one on the bench outside the school.

16. (Are, Is) the visiting chorus staying at several guest houses?

17. During the semester the faculty (is, are) helping the students with fund-raisers.

18. The faculty (is, are) meeting with their team captains in their classrooms.

19. The flock (fly, flies) over this area each autumn.

20. The set (is, are) all in perfect condition except for the one you cracked.

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**Exercise A**

1. Here (is, are) the worksheets for today’s class.

2. (There’s, There are) an answer key in the locked desk drawer.

3. On the chalkboard (is, are) written the instructions.

4. Where (is, are) the other assignments for the class?

5. Oh, there (is, are) the dictionary.

6. (Who’s, Who are) the student assistant today?

7. (Is, Are) both of you assistants?

8. Over here (is, are) the papers for the students.

9. (Was, Were) there enough copies for everyone?

10. (Here’s, Here are) one more copy.

**Exercise B**

11. There are several places in need of volunteers in our community.

12. What is the types of volunteer activities available?

13. Here’s a list of community centers and hospitals.

14. On one of these pages are a parental consent form.

15. There’s several locations in immediate need of your help.

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**Exercise**

1. Is 8. are 15. is

2. is 9. is 16. Are

3. have 10. was 17. was

4. was 11. Was 18. is

5. equals 12. is 19. makes

6. is 13. were 20. is

7. Does 14. is

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**Exercise**

1. is 11. was

2. is 12. was

3. was 13. sponsors

4. Does 14. is

5. has 15. is

6. takes 16. accepts

7. is 17. shares

8. was 18. was

9. Is 19. shows

10. is 20. is