

English Grammar

Some Important Topics

Topics to be covered in Series-1

1. Agreement of Subject and Verb
2. Phrases and clauses (difference and kinds)
3. Tenses and their use
4. Active and passive voice
5. Sequence of tenses
6. Conditional sentences
7. Direct and Indirect speech
8. Transformation of sentences

Each video will have some BONUS points in the end such as five new words to enrich your vocabulary or some information about a day- to- day happenings

TOPIC -1 (SERIES-1)

AGREEMENT OF SUBJECT AND VERB

A verb must agree with its subject in number and person (we have to see whether the subject is singular or plural and whether it is first person, second person or third person).

E.g.- The quality of the apples is not good (here the subject is quality, not apples)
So we have used 'is' not 'are'.

The basic rule about the topic is that singular subject takes singular verb and plural subject takes plural verb.

Singular verb means verb+ s/es

Plural verb means –verb without s/es

Ex. A boy plays in the garden.

The boys play in the garden.

Some rules:- (a) Two or more singular subjects ,when connected by 'and' take a plural verb.

Mohit and his brother were present in the meeting.

He and my cousin are great friends.

(b) If two subjects (joined by and) suggest one idea or refer to the same person or thing,

Then the verb is in singular:-

Slow and steady wins the race. (slow and steady represent one idea)

Rice and curry is his favourite food. (rice and curry refer to one thing)

(C) If two singular subjects(joined by and) are preceded by each or every, the verb is singular:-

Each of these metals is found in India.

Every boy and every girl was given sweets.

Now the power points: Five words with their meanings and sentence:

1. Perceptible-----something that is noticeable

The change in weather is perceptible.

1. Evocative-----something that generates deep feelings

The music,we heard last night, was evocative.

1. Far-fetched----- difficult to believe

The story was a little bit far-fetched for everyone.

1. Gritty-----showing determination and courage

The boy gave a very gritty performance against his opponent and won.

1. Frivolous----- not so useful or valuable

Rich people spend money on frivolous things.

(d) If two singular nouns refer to the same person or thing, the verb must be singular :-

Ex. My uncle and guide has come. (here my uncle guide is one person)

The poet and philosopher is dead.(refers to the same person)

But if the article is used twice then it means two different persons are referred to, then we use plural verb:-

Ex. The poet and the philosopher are dead.(two persons have been mentioned here.

(e) Each ,everyone, either, neither, many a, must be followed by a singular verb;

Ex. 1 Neither of the two paintings was beautiful.

2. Each of these stories tells about the values of life.

3. Everyone of the candidates was interviewed.

4. Many a boy has committed such kind of mistake.

5 Either of the two students is so hardworking.

(f) When two or more singular subjects are joined by or, either-----or, neither-----nor, the verb agrees with the second subject in number and person.

Ex.1. Either you or he is to blame.

2. Neither food nor water was available there.

3. Either the cat or the monkey has bitten you.

(g) But when the subjects connected by or, nor, either---or, neither----nor, are of different numbers , means one of the subjects is plural , the verb must be plural and the plural subject should be placed near the verb.

Ex. 1. Neither Raj nor his friends were there.

2. Either the judge or the lawyers are present.

Bonus points:

1. Mind-boggling---difficult to accept or imagine

The Govt.'s pension reform is mind boggling.

2. Immense---something big

My cousin inherited an immense fortune.

3. Petrified---really scared

She was petrified to see an enormous snake.

4. Plausible—something that is believable

His excuse for not doing his homework was plausible this time.

5. Captivating---very exciting

Harry potter's movies are really captivating.