

# UNIT 7

## SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT

### REVIEW

A complete sentence contains a **subject** and a **verb**. The **subject** (a noun or pronoun) must **agree with the verb**.

**Review these.**

A **singular subject** takes a **singular verb**.

- **Every worker wears** a name tag.
- **Each student receives** a pen.
- The **show begins** at nine.

A **plural subject** takes a **plural verb**.

- **Children like** sweet things.
- The **farmers work** very hard.

We use **singular verbs** for **uncountable nouns**.

- **Water is** made up of hydrogen and oxygen.
- There **is** a lot of **food** for the guests.

When **'either ... or'** or **'neither ... nor'** is used in a sentence, the verb must **agree with the noun that is nearer to it**.

- Either the brothers or the **sister is** giving the toy away.
- Either Mary or her **parents have** bought the tickets.
- Neither they nor **Albert wants** to stop playing.
- Neither Roger nor his **sisters play** the piano.

**'I'** and **'you'** **always take a plural verb**.

The **subject** must **agree with the verb** only when it is in the present tense. The only exceptions are **'was'** and **'were'** in the past tense.

- **One of the passengers was** injured in the accident.
- **Several buses were** destroyed in the fire.