

# Basic English Review

## Unit 4

### Verbs

# Objectives

- To recognize and use verbs correctly when making statements, asking questions, or giving commands
- To identify principal helping verbs and linking verbs
- To use a verb so that it agrees with the subject of the sentence
- To consider unity, organization, and length when writing paragraphs

## Section 10

# Functions/Uses of Verbs

- A **verb** tells what the subject does or is or what happens to it.
- It is one of the two required parts of every sentence.



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## Verbs Make Statements, Ask Questions, and Give Commands

- Darrell hit a home run.
  - hit—a verb. It tells what the subject *Darrell* did. It makes a statement.
- Who wants to go to the ballgame?
  - wants—a verb. It asks about the subject *Who*.
- Call me when you arrive.
  - Call—a verb. It gives a command to the subject, *you* (understood).

## Section 11 Helping Verbs and Linking Verbs

# Uses of Helping Verbs

- Helping verbs (also known as auxiliary verbs) help connect the subject and the main verb.

Principal Helping Verbs				
am	did	have	must	was
are	do	is	ought	were
be	does	may	shall	will
can	had	might	should	would
could	has			

## Uses of Helping Verbs

- Use helping verbs to create three sentences.
  - **Example:** *Juan will finalize his term paper tonight.*

## Verb Separations

- The helping verb and the main verb may be separated by another word (or words).
  - The new sculptures are currently displayed in the lobby.
    - are currently displayed—verb separation. The helping verb *are* and the main verb *displayed* are separated by the modifier *currently*.
- Write a sentence with the helping and main verbs separated.

## Section 11 Helping Verbs and Linking Verbs

# Use of Linking Verbs with Predicate Nouns, Pronouns, and Adjectives

- When a form of the verb *be* is used alone, the word used to complete its meaning is called a **predicate noun, predicate pronoun, or predicate adjective**.
- These forms of the verb *be* are called **linking verbs**.
- Forms of *become* and *seem* are also linking verbs.
- Forms of *appear, taste, smell, feel, sound, and look* are sometimes linking verbs.



# Predicate Nouns and Pronouns

- A predicate noun or pronoun refers to the subject of the sentence and is called the **predicate nominative**.
  - Barbra Streisand is a famous singer.
    - singer—noun. It is a predicate noun because it completes the meaning of the linking verb *is* and refers to the subject *Barbra Streisand*.
- Write a sentence with a predicate noun or pronoun.

## Predicate Adjectives

- An adjective after a linking verb describes the subject and is called the **predicate adjective**.
  - Tickets to her concerts are expensive.
    - expensive—adjective. It is a predicate adjective because it completes the meaning of the linking verb *are* and describes the subject *Tickets*.
- Write a sentence with a predicate adjective.

## Section 12

# Verb Agreement with Subject

- A verb must agree with its subject in person and number.
- A singular subject take a singular form of a verb.
- A plural subject takes a plural form of a verb.
  - Kevin and Kate are trauma nurses.
    - are—plural form of the verb agrees with the plural subject *Kevin and Kate*

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Forms of the Verb Be

- *Am, is, and was* are singular forms of the verb *be* and require singular subjects.
- *Are and were* are plural forms and require plural subjects.
- Write a sentence with a singular subject and a sentence with a plural subject. Use the verb *be*.

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Contrary-to-Fact Conditions

- When stating a condition contrary to fact, use *were* with all subjects, singular or plural.
  - If I were to buy a vehicle, it would be a van.
  - were—plural form of the verb is used with a singular subject when stating a condition contrary to fact.



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## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Forms of the Verb *Have*

- To express something happening now, use *have* with all singular and plural subjects.
- The exceptions are singular nouns and third-person singular pronouns (*he, she, it*), which require *has*.
- To express something that happened in the past, use *had* with all subjects.
- Write a sentence using *have, has, or had*.

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Plural Form with Compound Subjects

- A **compound subject** consists of two or more nouns or pronouns joined by a conjunction.
- If the subjects are joined by *and*, use a plural verb.
  - Chuck and Allie have a new dog.
    - have—plural form of the verb agrees with the plural subject *Chuck and Allie*



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## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Intervening Words, Phrases, and Clauses

- If the subject is separated from the verb by a modifier, make sure the verb agrees with the subject, not the modifier.
  - Mike, together with his extended family, is taking a camping trip to Yellowstone National Park this summer.
    - is—singular form of the helping verb agrees with the singular subject *Mike*



## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Intervening Words, Phrases, and Clauses

- Is the verb correct? If not, correct it.
  - Mark, not the twins, are having a party.
  - Those three concerts at the conservatory are worth seeing.
  - The man with the two small boys were forgotten.

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Verb Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns

- Some indefinite pronouns are always singular and require a singular verb.

another	either	neither	other
anybody	everybody	no one	somebody
anyone	everyone	nobody	someone
anything	everything	nothing	something
each	much	one	

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Verb Agreement with Indefinite Pronouns

- Some indefinite pronouns are always plural and require a plural verb.

both	few	many	others	several
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- Some indefinite pronouns are sometimes singular and sometimes plural, depending on the context.

all	any	more	most	none	some
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## Verb Agreement with *There*

- In sentences that begin with *there*, the true subject follows the verb.
- *There* is never the subject of a sentence.
  - There are two movies that I would like to see.
    - are—plural form of the verb agrees in number with the plural subject *movies*

## Verb Agreement with *Or*

- When *or* is used to combine two or more subjects, a singular verb is used if the subject nearest the verb is singular.
- A plural verb is used if the subject nearest the verb is plural.
  - My uncle or my cousins are meeting me at the airport.
    - are—plural form of the verb agrees in number with the nearer subject *cousins*

## Verb Agreement with Collective Nouns

- A collective noun that refers to a group acting as a whole requires a singular verb.
- A collective noun that refers to a group in which the members act individually requires a plural verb.
  - The panel has reviewed the proposals.
    - has—singular form of the helping verb. The collective noun *panel* is thought of as one.

## Section 12 Verb Agreement with Subject

# Indefinite Pronouns, *Or*, Collective Nouns

- Choose the correct verb.
  - None of the interns (is, are) ever on time.
  - Neither of the customers (has, have) made a complaint.
  - Pizza or enchiladas (is, are) fine with me.
  - One of the planets (is, are) visible tonight.
  - The team (is, are) arriving on three buses.