

Subject-Verb Agreement Activity 1
McNair's English 12

Name: _____
Date: _____ **Period:** _____

EXERCISE A: In each of the following sentences, underline the subject once and write above it *S* for *singular* or *P* for *plural*. Then, circle or underline the verb in parentheses that agrees in number with the subject.

1. Cities such as San Francisco (*attracts, attract*) many residents.
2. Residents of a large city often (*is, are*) faced with high taxes.
3. A major problem in many large cities (*involves, involve*) transportation.
4. Those residents who use public transportation (*helps, help*) the environment.
5. Pollution, as well as overcrowded highways, (*is, are*) reduced.

Exercise B: Choose the correct **present** tense verb form for the sentences below.

1. The dead trees and peeling paint, along with the broken windows and flapping shutters, _____ everyone believe that evil spirits haunt the deserted Sinclair house.
A. made B. has made C. makes D. make
2. Where _____ the earrings that I left by the bathroom sink? Oh no! That stupid cat has swatted them down the drain again!
A. was B. were C. is D. are
3. Neither of those sharks circling your boogie board _____ hungry enough to bite.
A. looks B. look C. looked D. had looked
4. One hundred and fifty gallons _____ the amount of liquid the average living room rug can absorb. Rachel discovered this fact after taking a long shower when the curtain wasn't tucked inside the tub.
A. is B. are C. was D. were
5. Agnes never loses a single possession. Everyone knows what belongs to her, for each pen, pencil, and paperclip _____ a tiny flag attached with Agnes' full name on it.
A. will have B. has C. have D. had

EXERCISE C: Most of the sentences in the following paragraph contain an error in subject-verb agreement. First, locate the subject and underline it. Next, determine if the subject is singular (S) or plural (P) by labeling it. Finally, if the verb is incorrect, draw a line through it, and write above it the form that agrees with the subject. If a sentence is already correct, write C above the number.

Example [1] The Grupo de Teatro Popular Realista were founded by Alfonso Sastre.

[2] Alfonso Sastre, who is one of Spain's leading playwrights, have been influenced by the works of Arthur Miller.

[3] Some of his writing show the influence of Brecht and Beckett. **[4]** Sastre, along with these playwrights, usually

place his plays in urban locations. [5] A major theme throughout his plays are criticism of society. [6] Despair caused by social injustices pervade Sastre's works. [7] The characters in almost every play face the problem of maintaining a sense of self. [8] Overcrowded living conditions, in addition to situations often demeaning, adds to the characters' misery. [9] However, he, as well as Miller, inject a sense of hope into the despair. [10] Perhaps the play that stands as the finest example of the theme of despair and hope are *Ana Kleiber*. [11] This playwright, who is considered one of Spain's most controversial dramatists, have also been called his country's most original.