
Practice activities

Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings to the correct endings to make sentences which are grammatically correct and make sense.

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|----|--|
| 1. | Every animal in the zoo... |
| 2. | These books... |
| 3. | Youling believes that speaking English fluently... |
| 4. | Maria, as well as Marco and Alice, ... |
| 5. | Unfortunately, English grammar... |
| 6. | This book... |
| 7. | English words... |
| 8. | Marco and Alice... |

| | |
|----|--|
| a. | ...is learning English. |
| b. | ...is fed a natural diet. |
| c. | ...sometimes have more than one meaning. |
| d. | ...are learning English. |
| e. | ...is very expensive! |
| f. | ...is sometimes irregular. |
| g. | ...are very expensive! |
| h. | ...is important in the modern world. |

Exercise 2:

Kaz and Youling are doing their English homework. Read their sentences and decide which one of them is correct.

1. Kaz: Right Youling, exercise 2, number 1. *Those strawberries **are** not ready to eat yet.* What have you got?
Youling: No Kaz, I think it should be *Those strawberries **is** not ready to eat yet.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

2. Kaz: Number 2. *That fruit cake **looks** delicious.*
Youling: No, Kaz, it's *That fruit cake **look** delicious.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

3. Kaz: Right, number 3: *Every person in the room **have** eaten a piece of the fruit cake.*
Youling: I think it should be *Every person in the room **has** eaten a piece of the fruit cake.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

4. Kaz: Next one: *Each guest, no matter how late it is, **has** to have a ticket.*
Youling: You mean: *Each guest, no matter how late it is, **have** to have a ticket.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

5. Kaz: Let's look at number 5. *Washing up **take** a long time without hot water.*
Youling: I think it should say: *Washing up **takes** a long time without hot water.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

6. Kaz: Last one! *Using washing-up liquid **makes** it a lot easier.*
Youling: I don't agree. It must be *Using washing-up liquid **make** it a lot easier.*
 - a. Kaz is correct.
 - b. Youling is correct.

Grammar Challenge: subject - verb agreement practice activities

Answers

Exercise 1:

Match the beginnings to the correct endings to make sentences which are grammatically correct and make sense.

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| 1. | Every animal in the zoo... |
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| b. | ...is fed a natural diet. |
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| h. | ...is important in the modern world. |
| a. | ...is learning English. |
| f. | ...is sometimes irregular. |
| e. | ...is very expensive! |
| c. | ...sometimes have more than one meaning. |
| d. | ...are learning English. |

Exercise 2:

Kaz and Youling are doing their English homework. Read their sentences and decide which one of them is correct.

1. Kaz: Right Youling, exercise 2, number 1. *Those strawberries are not ready to eat yet.* What have you got?
Youling: No Kaz, I think it should be *Those strawberries is not ready to eat yet.*

a. Kaz is correct. - Well done! *Those strawberries* are plural & countable

b. Youling is correct. - Sorry - *Those strawberries* are plural & countable

2. Kaz: Number 2. *That fruit cake looks delicious.*
Youling: No, Kaz, it's *That fruit cake look delicious.*

a. Kaz is correct. - Well done! *That fruit cake* is singular

b. Youling is correct. - Sorry - *That fruit cake* is singular

3. Kaz: Right, number 3: *Every person in the room **have** eaten a piece of the fruit cake.*
Youling: I think it should be *Every person in the room **has** eaten a piece of the fruit cake.*

a. Kaz is correct. – Sorry – Subjects with *each & every* take singular verbs

b. Youling is correct. – Well done! Subjects with *each & every* take singular verbs

4. Kaz: Next one: *Each guest, no matter how late it is, **has** to have a ticket.*
Youling: You mean: *Each guest, no matter how late it is, **have** to have a ticket.*

a. Kaz is correct. – Well done! The subject and verb must agree with each other, even if they get separated by extra information

b. Youling is correct. – Sorry - The subject and verb must agree with each other, even if they get separated by extra information

5. Kaz: Let's look at number 5. *Washing up **take** a long time without hot water*
Youling: I think it should say: *Washing up **takes** a long time without hot water*

a. Kaz is correct. – Sorry - Single verb-ing subjects usually take singular verbs

b. Youling is correct. – Well done! Single verb-ing subjects usually take singular verbs

6. Kaz: Last one! *Using washing-up liquid **makes** it a lot easier.*
Youling: I don't agree. It must be *Using washing-up liquid **make** it a lot easier.*

a. Kaz is correct. – Sorry - Single verb-ing subjects usually take singular verbs

b. Youling is correct. – Well done! Single verb-ing subjects usually take singular verbs