# Subject-Verb Agreement

Subjects and verbs must agree in number (either both must be singular or both must be plural). This is easy to see when dealing with a simple sentence:

* I *walk* to class.
* You *take* an exam.

However, when using the third person singular subject (he, she or it), you must add “s” or “es” to the verb.

* He *finishes* his essay.
* The student *graduates* (She *graduates.)*

When you have two or more subjects joined by **and,** the verb should be plural.

* Writing **and** math *are* part of the core requirements.
* Biology, chemistry **and** physics *are* all natural sciences.

When you have two or more subjects joined by **or** or **nor,** the verb should agree with the subject closest to the verb.

* Either France, Spain **or** Italy *has* the most tourist traps.
* Either articles **or** a book *works* as source material.
* Either a book **or** articles *work* as source material.

For additional information on subject-verb agreement, including explanations of special cases and exercises to help improve your understanding, you can visit the [Purdue OWL](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/599/01/).