

Subject: Subject – Verb Agreement

Outlined below are some Subject – Verb Agreement rules dealing with expressions of quantity.

1. The verb is determined by the noun that follows "of" in most expressions of quantity.
*Ex. A section of the building **is** not insulated. A bunch of my buddies **are** forming a soccer team.
Two-thirds of the money **is** mine. Some of the books **are** used.*
2. One of, each of, and every one of take singular verbs.
*Ex. One of my grammar books **has** been stolen. Every one of the cars **looks** old.
Each of the teachers **is** here.*
3. Subjects with none of are considered singular in formal English even though the noun is plural.
*Ex. None of the boys **lives** here now.*
4. A number of is an expression of quantity meaning 'a lot of'. It is followed by a plural noun and a plural verb. The number of is the subject and is followed by a singular verb.
*Ex. A number of complaints **are** made everyday about your poor attitude.
The number of students in the class **is** ten.*

Please conjugate the following verbs so that they agree with their subject. All verbs are to be conjugated in the present tense.

1. Each of the sopranos (sing) _____ a solo.
2. A number of her staff in this office (work) _____ the night shift.
3. Some of these items (be) _____ out of stock.
4. One of my neighbours (write) _____ for our local newspaper.
5. A flock of birds (be) _____ often seen at that bird feeder.
6. None of the houses (be) _____ painted green.
7. The number of participants in the game (be) _____ eight.
8. Three-quarters of the amount (be) _____ going to charity.