Subject-Verb Agreement
Subjects and verbs agree in number. Example:

- My friend is tall.
- My friends are tall.
- My friend and I are tall.
Let’s look at the following situations:

**Situation 1:**

- When a sentence begins with the word *there + verb-to-be*, the subject follows the *be* verb.

- Example:
  - There *is a ball* in the basket.
  - There *are three balls* in the basket.
Situation 2: Prepositional phrase (pp)

- A group of words beginning with a preposition and ending with a noun/pronoun

- Example:
  1. One of the girls is my sister. 
     pp
  2. The man with brown eyes is my father. 
     pp
  3. The shoes in the shop are beautiful. 
     pp
Prepositional phrases may come after a subject, but they are not part of the subject.

Mentally cross them out when deciding if the verb should be singular or plural.

- Example:
  
  One (of the girls) is my sister.
  (Subject is one, not girls)

  The man (with brown eyes) is my father.
  (Subject is man, not eyes)

  The shoes (in the shop) are beautiful.
  (Subject is shoes, not shop)
Situation 3:
Some words are always singular.

- **One** of my brothers **is** a doctor.
- **Much** of my time **is** spent in school.
- **Each** of them **owns** a car and a house.
- **Either** Mary or her brother **is** able to play the violin.
- **Neither** Mary or her brother **is** able to play the violin.
Situation 4:
Some words are always plural

- **Both** of my parents **are** doctors.
- **Several** of my friends **speak** English fluently.
- **Many** of my friends **work** part-time in the restaurant.
Situation 5:
A few words can be either singular or plural. In these cases, you must refer to the noun in the pp.

- **SOME**
  
  Some **of the** money is missing. (singular)
  Some **of the** teachers are missing. (plural)

- **ALL**

  All **of my** time is spent in the library. (singular)
  All **of my** friends are doctors. (plural)
MOST
Most of the chocolate is gone. (singular)
Most of the chocolates are gone. (plural)

A LOT
A lot of the homework is difficult. (singular)
A lot of the drawings are painted by students. (plural)

NONE
None of the food is delicious. (singular)
None of the cakes are delicious. (plural)