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До друку та в світ
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директор інституту інформатизації освіти
професор А.І. Прокопенко

Смєлова С.В.

AGREEMENT OF THE PREDICATE WITH THE SUBJECT
Методичні рекомендації з курсу практичної граматики англійської мови
для студентів II курсу факультету іноземної філології

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Укладач: Смєлова С.В.

Рецензенти:

Єрмакова Т.С. – доктор педагогічних наук, доцент, завідувач кафедри педагогіки та іноземної філології Харківської державної академії дизайну та мистецтв

Шпак Ю.О. – кандидат філологічних наук, доцент кафедри англійської філології Харківського національного педагогічного університету імені Г.С. Сковороди

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CONTENTS

ПЕРЕДМОВА.....	2
THEORETICAL REFERENCE	3
Formal subject-predicate agreement.....	3
Notional subject-predicate agreement.....	7
PRACTICE.....	8
Formal subject-predicate agreement.....	8
Notional subject-predicate agreement.....	14
Miscellaneous.....	17
KEYS.....	32
БІБЛІОГРАФІЯ	50

ПЕРЕДМОВА

Посібник присвячено узгодженню присудка з підметом, що є суперечливим питанням англійської граматики. У студентів виникають певні труднощі при вивченні та засвоєнні цього граматичного матеріалу, причиною чого є невідповідність граматичних систем рідних мов і англійської мови.

Метою посібника є систематизувати різні випадки узгодження присудка з підметом, систематизування виконано з урахуванням наявності двох типів узгодження присудка з підметом: Formal subject-predicate agreement, Notional subject-predicate agreement.

Посібник складається із теоретичного матеріалу, в якому надаються узагальнені відомості щодо різних випадків узгодження присудка з підметом, і комплексу вправ.

Посібник адресований викладачам і студентам факультетів іноземної філології, а також може бути використаний як довідковий матеріал для широкого кола читачів, які вивчають англійську мову або працюють із нею.

THEORETICAL REFERENCE

AGREEMENT OF THE PREDICATE WITH THE SUBJECT

Agreement is one of the principle means to show the relation between the subject and the predicate.

Agreement in English may be **formal** and **notional**.

In the majority of cases agreement is formal: the subject and the predicate agree in a form: in number and sometimes in person.

This rule of subject-predicate agreement concerns all present tenses (except modal verbs) and also the past simple of the verb *to be*.

Formal subject-predicate agreement

I. General cases

A. The singular predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:

1. singular nouns, Singularia Tantum;

*Our only **guide** in the dark **was** the stars.*

Note: Singularia Tantum (nouns used only with a verb in the singular):

- uncountable nouns (mass nouns, abstract nouns): *water, love, excitement...*;
- proper nouns: *Brooklyn, The Strand, The Old Monk, Wales...*;
- names of sports games: *billiards, cards, draughts...*;
- names of diseases: *mumps, shingles, measles, rabies...*;
- names of sciences and subjects: *phonetics, linguistics, mathematics...*;
- nouns that are uncountable in English, but countable in Ukrainian: *advice, knowledge, news, progress, research...*;
- nouns that are Singularia Tantum in English, but Pluralia Tantum in Ukrainian: *money, chess, applause...*

2. an infinitive phrase or phrases, a prepositional phrase, a gerund or a clause;

*To be loved and to be wanted **is** always good.*

*After the meeting **is** the time to speak.*

*Where you found him **does** not concern me.*

Note: Subject clauses introduced by conjunctive pronouns **what, who** are followed by a singular verb if the following main noun is singular, and either a singular or plural verb if the following main noun is plural (although a plural verb is preferred in more formal contexts).

*What worries us **is** the poor selection process.*

*What is needed **are** additional resources. (or What is needed **is** additional resources. – more colloquial)*

3. a numerical expression, such as arithmetical addition, subtraction, division;

Four and four is eight.

Four minus two is two.

Ten divided by five is two.

Note: However multiplication admits of two variants.

Twice two is/are four.

4. the group **many a** + noun;

Many a man has done it.

5. the plural nouns **data** and **media**.

All the data is available.

Note: In formal contexts the plural verb is preferred.

All the data are available.

B. The plural predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:

1. plural nouns, Pluralia Tantum.

His clothes were shabby.

Note: Pluralia Tantum (nouns that are used only with a verb in the plural):

- names of tools consisting of two parts: *tweezers, scales, scissors, spectacles...*;

- names of clothes consisting of two parts: *trousers, pyjamas, gloves, tights...*;

- substantivized adjectives, denoting groups of people: *the young, the blind, the rich...*;

- other nouns: *arms, ashes, contents, customs, earnings, goods, greens, holidays, odds, outskirts, suburbs, looks, premises, particulars, stairs, thanks, surroundings, troops, wages, proceeds, remains, forces, the Middle Ages...*

C. The singular/plural predicate is used in the following case:

1. if a percentage, fraction or another expression of quantity is followed by a noun in the singular – a singular predicate is used, if they are followed by a noun in the plural – a plural predicate is used.

Around 10 per cent of the forest is destroyed each year.

50 % of the houses need major repairs.

Three fourths of the electorate is expected to vote.

Most of the homework is easy.

Half of our assignments are easy.

II. Pronouns as subjects

A. The singular predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:

1. the formal subject *it*;

It was my friends who suddenly arrived.

2. indefinite pronouns (*somebody, someone, anybody*),
universal pronouns (*everybody, everyone, everything, each, every, either*),
negative pronouns (*nobody, no one, neither, etc.*);

Somebody is asking for you.

Nobody has come except me.

Note: *None* commonly takes a plural verb-predicate in the informal style.

None were here. (informal)

None was here. (formal)

All (все) has a singular verb, while *all (все)* takes a plural verb.

All is well that ends well.

All were in favour of the plan.

3. interrogative pronouns *who, what*;

Who has come? What is there?

Note: If the pronoun denotes more than one person or thing a plural predicate is used.

Who have agreed to act?

B. The plural predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:

1. the universal pronoun *both*.

Which of the letters are yours? Both are mine.

C. The singular/plural predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:

1. the indefinite pronoun *some*, if it is followed by a noun in the singular – a singular predicate is used, if it is followed by a noun in the plural – a plural predicate is used;

Some of the book is interesting.

Some of the books are interesting.

2. pronouns *any of, each of, either of, neither of, or none of* followed by a plural noun;

However, it is more likely to use a singular predicate in careful written English.

I don't think any of them knows (or know) where the money is hidden.

Neither of the French athletes has (or have) won this year.

3. relative pronouns, the form of the predicate depends on the noun or pronoun which is its antecedent.

Do you know the girl who lives next door?

Do you know the girls who live next door?

It is you who are right. It is I who am wrong.

Note: *It's me who is wrong.*

III. Two or more homogeneous subjects

A. The singular predicate is used in the following cases:

1. with homogeneous subjects expressed by infinitives or gerunds;

To live and to love is what she wants.

2. with homogeneous subjects proceeded by *every/each*.

Every man, woman and child needs love.

Each book and magazine is listed in the bibliography.

B. The plural predicate is used in the following cases:

1. with homogeneous subjects connected by *and* or *asyndetically*;

The sun and air are necessary for life.

Note: With structures where coordinated nouns refer to one thing or person a singular predicate is used.

Bacon and eggs makes a traditional English breakfast. (one dish is meant)

The painter and decorator is here. (one person is meant)

If the article is repeated, the reference is to two persons or objects, and a plural predicate is used.

The painter and the decorator are here. (two persons are meant)

Likewise, when a singular noun-subject has two or more attributes connected by *and*, the predicate is in the singular and the article is not repeated.

A black and white kitten was playing on the rug.

But if the attributes characterize different persons or non-persons, the predicate is in the plural and the article is repeated.

A black and a white kitten were playing on the rug. (A black kitten was playing and a white kitten was playing.)

With plural nouns only one article is used.

The Black and Mediterranean Seas never freeze.

2. with homogeneous subjects connected by *both... and*.

Both the bread and the butter are fresh.

C. The singular/plural predicate is used in the following cases:

1. with homogeneous subjects connected by the conjunctions *not only... but also*, *either... or*, *or*, *neither... nor* the predicate agrees with the nearest noun-subject;

Either my sister or my parents are at home.

Either my parents or my sister is at home.

2. with homogeneous subjects connected by the conjunctions *as well as*, *rather than*, *as much as*, *more than* the predicate agrees with the first one;

My parents as well as my sister are teachers.

My sister as well as my parents is a teacher.

3. with *there/here* – constructions the predicate agrees with the subject that stands first.

There was a textbook and many notebooks on the table.

There were many notebooks and a textbook on the table.

Notional subject-predicate agreement

Notional agreement is the agreement that varies with the same word in accordance with the notion it expresses (one object/more than one object).

A. The singular predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:
1. nouns denoting measure, weight, time, distance etc.; <i>Ten years is a long time.</i> <i>A million francs is a lot of money.</i>
2. plural nouns or phrases when they are used as names, titles, quotations; <i>'Fathers and Sons' is the most popular of Turgenev's novels.</i> Note: The titles of some works which are collections of stories may have either a singular or a plural verb. <i>Turgenev's 'Hunter's Tales' was/were published in 1852.</i>
3. structures where coordinated nouns refer to one thing or person. <i>In many economic models R&D (research & development) is the engine of growth.</i>
B. The singular/plural predicate is used if the subject is expressed by:
1. collective nouns (<i>army, association, audience, band, board, chorus, class, club, college, committee, company, community, crew, crowd, department, family, firm, gang, generation, government, group, jury, party, population, press, public, school, staff, team...</i>); names of organisations (<i>the Bank of England, the BBC, IBM, Sony...</i>); The singular predicate is used if a single undivided body is meant, and the plural predicate – if a group of separate individuals is meant. <i>The crowd was enormous.</i> <i>The crowd were silent.</i>
2. word-groups including nouns of quantity: <i>a/the number of..., a/the majority of..., a/the part of..., a/the variety of...;</i> Compare: <i>The number (кількість) of pages in this book isn't large. – The number is the subject of the sentence (answers the question <i>What?</i>). <i>It was Sunday and a number (кілька) of people were walking about. – A number is an adverbial modifier of quantity (answers the question <i>How many?</i>).</i> <i>The variety (різноманітність) of shades was impressive.</i> <i>A variety (безліч) of hooks were used for different kinds of fish.</i></i>
3. some nouns such as <i>statistics, economics, physics, acoustics, politics...</i> <i>Statistics is an interesting science to study. (a subject) — What are the statistics on this point? (figures)</i> <i>Economics has only recently been recognized as a scientific study. (a science) – The economics behind their policies are unreasonable. (the financial system)</i> <i>Physics studies the laws of nature. (a science) — Her Physics are very poor. (grades)</i> <i>Acoustics is the scientific study of sound and sound waves. (a science) – The acoustics of this concert hall are unusual. (the acoustics characteristics of a room)</i> <i>Politics is popular at this university. (a science) – Her politics are bordering on the fascist. (political views)</i>

PRACTICE

Formal subject-predicate agreement

General cases

Task 1. Say which of the following words agree with *is* and which with *are*.

Clothes, money, customs, news, memoirs, pence, linen, leafage, glasses, advice, police, arms, information, scissors, weather, progress, knowledge, scales, jeans, furniture, work, equipment, pyjamas, poultry, measles, cattle, mumps, the French, the rich.

Task 2. Choose the correct completions.

1. Six divided by two (*is / are*) three.
2. The news in that newspaper (*is / are*) biased.
3. The elderly in my country (*is / are*) given free medical care.
4. Diabetes (*is / are*) an illness. Mumps (*is / are*) another kind of illness. Rabies (*is / are*) a disease you can get from being bitten by an infected animal.
5. Many colourful fish (*is / are*) swimming in the fish tank.
6. The police (*is / are*) coming to investigate the accident.
7. Six and four (*is / are*) ten.
8. People (*is / are*) interesting.
9. Lettuce (*is, are*) good for you.
10. The subjects you will be studying in this course (*is, are*) listed in the syllabus.
11. The extent of Fatima's knowledge on various subjects (*astounds, astound*) me.
12. I like to go shopping when I'm on vacation but I don't buy many things. A lot of the stuff in tourist shops (*is, are*) cheaply made and overpriced.
13. (*Is, Are*) having the responsibility for taking care of pets good for young children?
14. Annie had a hard time when she was coming home from the store because the bag of groceries (*was, were*) too heavy for her to carry.
15. Where (*does, do*) your parents live?
16. Getting to know students from all over the world (*is, are*) one of the best parts of my job.
17. Tomatoes (*is, are*) easy to grow. Growing tomatoes (*is, are*) especially easy in hot climates.



Task 3. Fill in *is* or *are*.

1. Your jeans _____ hanging in the wardrobe.
2. Where _____ my scissors?
3. There _____ a lecture on economics today.
4. The shopping _____ extremely heavy.
5. Where _____ my boxing gloves?
6. This information _____ incorrect.
7. Her hair _____ beautiful.
8. Your socks _____ in the drawer.
9. Her furniture _____ very expensive.
10. His accommodation _____ luxurious.

11. Evidence _____ needed before the trial can continue.
12. The news _____ very exciting.
13. Mumps _____ a common illness among young children.
14. Where _____ my glasses?
15. German _____ difficult to learn.
16. Where _____ the kitchen scales? I want to weigh some flour.
17. Chess _____ a popular game.
18. Her work _____ very tiring.
19. People _____ starving in many countries.
20. Happiness _____ the keys to her success.

Task 4. Use the right form of the verbs in brackets.

1. Measles still (*strike*) many Americans.
2. A pair of jeans (*be*) what I need to buy.
3. These trousers (*be*) very good.
4. (*Be*) your glasses expensive?
5. Your hair (*grow*) fast?
6. The customs (*be*) at the end of the terminal.
7. Where your linen (*come*) from?
8. (*Be*) furniture sold here?
9. The cattle (*be*) in the fields now.
10. Diabetes (*be*) an illness caused by too much sugar in the blood.
11. His earnings (*be*) quite good.
12. What (*be*) the weather like in London now?
13. Dice (*be*) used in many games.
14. Your progress (*make*) everybody happy.
15. Work (*be*) the best cure of all the problems.
16. Her clothes (*be*) chic and (*cost*) a fortune.
17. Martha's poultry (*be*) the best in the village.
18. How (*be*) the wounded?
19. The goods (*be*) checked regularly.
20. The contents of the contract (*change*) yesterday.
21. Dice (*tell*) us interesting things.
22. The data (*be*) all in. (*informal*).
23. The data (*be*) all in. (*formal*)

Task 5. Supply the missing words.

1. The goods you ordered _____ arrived.
2. Where _____ the scissors?
3. How much _____ a good pair of trousers cost these days?
4. The trousers _____ very expensive!
5. If your clothes _____ dirty, please put them in the laundry basket.
6. My jeans (not) _____ faded much even though I keep washing.
7. All their belongings _____ been destroyed in a fire.
8. My earnings (not) _____ high, but at least they _____ regular.
9. These shorts _____ fit me at all!

Task 6. *Circle the correct verb.*

1. A lot of that movie (*is / are*) full of violence.
2. A lot of movies (*is / are*) full of violence.
3. Half of the pizza (*is / are*) for you and half (*is / are*) for me.
4. Half of the pizzas (*is / are*) vegetarian.
5. Most of my friends (*is / are*) people I met in school.
6. A large part of our town (*have / has*) been badly damaged by a big fire.
7. Most of the houses (*was / were*) destroyed by the fire.
8. Most of the house (*was / were*) destroyed by the fire.

Task 7. *Write the verb in brackets in the space either as a singular or plural verb so that it agrees with the main noun.*

1. The issues which have been considered in the previous section _____ us to speculate on problems that learners might encounter. (*allow*)
2. Smuggling illegal immigrants out of Mexico _____ against the law. (*be*)
3. The country's first general election since it won independence _____ to be held next month. (*be*)
4. The only people who are interested in the book _____ to be lawyers. (*seem*)
5. The view of the manufacturing and tourist industries _____ that the economy is improving. (*be*)
6. An early analysis of the results _____ that the Socialists have won. (*show*)
7. Reliance only on written tests of English to measure language ability _____ to be a cheap option. (*appear*)

Task 8. *Complete the sentences with a singular or plural form of the verb in brackets. Use present tense forms.*

1. Keeping large animals as pets in a small house _____ cruel. (*be*)
2. An investigation of the circumstances surrounding her death _____ that she was murdered. (*suggest*)
3. What amazes me _____ his ability to hit the ball so hard. (*be*)
4. The main reasons for his lack of progress _____ to be his poor motivation and inability to concentrate. (*appear*)
5. The cost of housing in the southern parts of the country _____ risen dramatically in the last year. (*have*)
6. That he was the best of the many talented golfers of his generation _____ indisputable. (*seem*)
7. The village's first new houses for 20 years _____ to be built next to Grove Farm. (*be*)
8. Among the many valuable paintings in the gallery _____ a self-portrait by Picasso. (*be*)
9. What I particularly enjoy about the film _____ the scenes in Australia. (*be*)

Pronouns as subjects

Task 9. *Read the sentences and comment on agreement in them.*

1. Of the two jobs, neither *holds* much appeal.

2. Either of these buses *goes / go* past my college.
3. None of the projects *was / were* useful to use.
4. None of these books *is / are* worth reading.
5. None of the cake *is* left.
6. None of the applicants *was / were* competent enough.
7. All of the cake *was* eaten.
8. All the candidates *promise* to do their best.
9. That *is* what interests me.
10. It *is* the children we live for.
11. It *was* they who organized all this.
12. It *is* they, not you, who *are* at fault.
13. All of the food *is* gone.
14. All of the letters *have* been lost.
15. All *is* reasonable.

Task 10. *Circle the correct verb.*

1. Some of Highway 21 (*is / are*) closed due to flooding.
2. Some of the highways (*is / are*) closed due to flooding.
3. Every of my friends (*is / are*) sports fans.
4. One of the houses (*was / were*) destroyed by the fire.
5. Each of the houses (*is / are*) in ruins.
6. Each house (*is / are*) in ruins.
7. Every of the houses (*has / have*) serious damage.
8. Every house (*has / have*) serious damage.
9. None of the houses (*has / have*) escaped damage.

Task 11. *Complete the sentences with either is/are or has/have. If both singular and plural forms are possible, write them both.*

1. I can assure you that everything _____ perfectly safe.
2. Either of the dentists _____ available. Which one do you want to see?
3. Each of Susan's colleagues _____ sent her a personal letter of support.
4. Although some people find cricket boring, each match _____ different.
5. We've got two cars, but neither of them _____ particularly new.
6. All the managers _____ agreed to work late tonight to get the job finished.
7. None of the information _____ particularly useful to me.
8. None of the TV programmes _____ worth watching tonight.
9. I hope everyone _____ a good holiday.
10. Some people _____ the strangest hobbies. My brother collects bottles!

Two or more homogeneous subjects

Task 12. *Circle the correct verb.*

1. There (*is / are*) a cup and few sauces on the table.
2. There (*is / are*) some cups and a sauce on the table.
3. There (*is / are*) a lot of people and a robot in the line for the movie.

4. There (*is / are*) a snack bar and several water cabins in the lobby of the theatre.
5. There (*wasn't / weren't*) a hurricane or even storms in Florida last year.
6. There (*was / were*) terrible tsunamis and a hurricane in Asia in 2004.
7. Why (*isn't / aren't*) there any chairs and a blackboard in the classroom?
8. Why (*isn't / aren't*) there a teacher and pupils in the classroom?
9. There (*isn't, aren't*) any letters or any telegram in the mail for you today.
10. There (*isn't, aren't*) any mail or messages for you today.
11. There (*is, are*) a lot of problems and injustice in the world.
12. There (*is, are*) a big hole and many small ones in his socks.
13. How many kinds of birds (*is, are*) there in the world?
14. Why (*isn't, aren't*) there a hospital or ambulance stations close to those villages?
15. There (*was, were*) a terrible earthquake and several tremors in Iran last year.



Task 13. Write sentences from these notes. Choose *is* or *are* as the verb in each case. If you can use either *is* or *are*, put both.

1. Prime Minister / her deputy / opening the debate
Either _____.
2. Tom / his friends / going to clean the car
Either _____.
3. the children / their mother / delivering the letters
Either _____.
4. the management / the workers / going to have to give way in the disagreement
Either _____.

Task 14. Choose the correct completions.

1. Nora and I (*am, are*) great friends.
2. (*Was, were*) there three patients due today?
3. Laughing and giggling (*irritate, irritates*) John's Granny.
4. Here, in the desk, of all the places, (*was, were*) the thermometer and the screwdriver.
5. Candlelight and wine (*add, adds*) a touch of romance to the party.
6. A black and white dog (*is, are*) guarding the house.
7. A black and a white dog (*is, are*) sitting on the porch.
8. The Dean and Lexicology lecturer (*was, were*) in the lecture theatre.
9. The director and the manager (*has, have*) signed the contract.
10. The cheese and the butter (*is, are*) in the shopping bag.
11. Whisky and soda (*is, are*) his favourite drink.
12. For supper there (*was, were*) fish and different vegetables to it.
13. There (*was, were*) cakes and tea for breakfast.
14. Cleopatra, as well as her entire retinue, (*was, were*) eager to meet Caesar.
15. Cleopatra and her entire retinue (*was, were*) eager to meet Caesar.
16. New York, together with all the other states, (*vote, votes*) for President.
17. Ellen, as well as her friends, (*dislike, dislikes*) classical music.
18. The soldiers, along with their commander, (*was entering, were entering*) the bivouac area.
19. The bacon and the eggs (*is, are*) in the fridge.
20. My cousin with his workmate (*is, are*) visiting us today.

21. David and his wife (*has, have*) just come.
22. Every plant and animal (*has, have*) its own ecological niche.
23. All the potato peelings and floor sweeping (*is, are*) carried away into this particular chute.
24. The professor and the student (*agrees, agree*) on that point.
25. Oranges, tomatoes, fresh strawberries, cabbage, and lettuce (*is, are*) rich in vitamin C.
26. Every man, woman and child (*is, are*) protected under the law.
27. Almost every professor and student at the university (*approves, approve*) of the choice of Dr. Brown as the new president.
28. Each girl and boy in the sixth grade class (*has, have*) to do a science project.
29. There (*is, are*) a lot of news and many new facts in the e-mail.
30. Why (*was, were*) Yoko and Alex late for the meeting?
31. Either my mother or I (*makes, make*) breakfast each morning.
32. Neither my roommate nor my parents (*is, are*) going to vote.
33. Neither you nor Maria (*was, were*) among the invited.
34. Either you or I (*am, are*) wrong.
35. Either the defendant or the witnesses (*is, are*) lying.
36. Neither Boris nor his sisters (*is planning, are planning*) to enter University.

Notional subject-predicate agreement

Task 15. *Read and translate the sentences. Comment on the cases of agreement in them.*

1. The committee *have* not agreed on many points.
2. The committee *has* been appointed for a second term.
3. After consulting, the jury *reports* its verdict.
4. The jury still *disagree* on many points.
5. A huge fire broke out near a farm. The country fire department *were* called out.
6. The school *were* happily anticipating their Halloween feast.
7. The team *need* time to learn to cooperate with one another.
8. The team wearing black and red *controls* the ball.
9. The crew *have* divided the loot among themselves.
10. The crew *is* well-trained.
11. The public *have* the right to know.
12. This cast *consists* of twenty actors.
13. The family of ducklings *scatter* when the cat approaches.
14. His family now *is* rather big.
15. The council *have* been promising to mend the fences, doors and windows for years.
16. The public *stop* and *stare*.
17. The staff of this bank *is* very competent.
18. Our staff *are* visiting theatres, restaurants, different presentations from time to time.

Task 16. *Choose plural verb forms and pronouns (in seven sentences) or singulars (in three sentences).*

1. The choir *has* / *have* thrown me out because *it says* / *they say* I can't sing.
2. The hospital *is* / *are* sending John home next week.
3. Our committee *has* / *have* twelve members.
4. A group of Dutch musicians *is* / *are* visiting Ireland.
5. The hospital *is* / *are* closing next month for building work.
6. Most of my family *lives* / *live* in Scotland.
7. The bank *closes* / *close* early on Fridays.
8. Our bank *is* / *are* always very friendly and helpful.
9. The team *is* / *are* getting desperate; *it hasn't* / *they haven't* won a game this year.
10. The golf club *is* / *are* putting the subscription up again.

Task 17. *Supply is, are, has or have. Give two forms where possible.*

1. The government _____ bringing in a new bill.
2. The company _____ going to employ six staff.
3. All governments _____ trying to control crime.
4. The jury _____ trying to decide now.
5. The youth of today _____ many advantages.
6. There _____ vermin in this restaurant.
7. The military _____ occupied the house.
8. The police _____ interested in this case.

9. The public _____ concerned about it.
10. How many people _____ coming tonight?
11. The committee _____ meeting now.
12. A lot of people _____ signed the petition.

Task 18. Complete the following sentences with either *was/were* or *has/have*. If both singular and plural forms are possible, write them both.

1. The crowd _____ growing restless as the day got hotter.
2. Sony _____ announced rising profits for the third year running.
3. The police _____ issued a warrant for Adamson's arrest.
4. When she was found, her face was bruised and her clothes _____ torn.
5. The public _____ a right to know how the money is to be spent.
6. Thomas was thought to be in Spain, although his exact whereabouts _____ unknown.
7. The stairs leading to the exit _____ steep and dangerous.
8. Lord Travers' family _____ lived in the house for twelve generations.
9. The college _____ spent over 500.000 on a new sports center.
10. People _____ running in all directions, trying to get away.

Task 19. Choose the correct completions.

1. The English (*is / are*) friendly people.
2. English (*is / are*) my native language.
3. The United States (*is / are*) in North America.
4. States (*is / are*) political units.
5. Economics (*is / are*) an important area of study.
6. One hundred meters (*isn't / aren't*) a long distance to travel by car.
7. Five minutes (*isn't / aren't*) too long to wait.
8. The number of pupils in school with reading difficulties (*has / have*) fallen this year.
9. The number of desks in that classroom (*is / are*) thirty-five.
10. A number of stores (*is / are*) closed today because of the holiday.
11. A number of shoppers (*has / have*) complained about the price increases.
12. The majority of primary school teachers (*is / are*) women.

Task 20. Correct these sentences if necessary.

1. The island's politics is complex, with over twelve parties competing for power.
2. Gymnasts from over 40 countries are competing in Madrid this weekend.
3. Economics has become an increasingly popular course at university.
4. The latest news of the earthquake survivors are very disturbing.
5. Jim's politics has changed considerably since he was in his twenties.
6. Diabetes are an illness caused by too much sugar in the blood.
7. Recent government statistics show a sharp decline in crime.
8. Women's gymnastics are no longer dominated by eastern Europeans.
9. Statistics are now compulsory for all students taking a course in engineering.
10. Most years, over three hundred athletes competes in the games.
11. The economics of the plan is worrying investors.
12. Measles is still a fairly serious childhood disease in some countries.

Task 21. Complete the sentences with one of the following nouns and an appropriate form of the verb in brackets. If a singular and plural verb form are possible, give both.

audience

class

crew

jury

orchestra

press

the United Nations

university

team

1. The _____ its first match of the season at its home ground. (*play*)
2. If the _____ to host the conference, I just don't know where we will be able to hold it. (*refuse*)
3. The world-wide television _____ for tomorrow's cup final _____ expected to be 200 million. (*be*)
4. The _____ classical concerts throughout the year. (*perform*)
5. The Waterman's Junior Book Prize _____ three adults and three children. (*include*)
6. The _____ all passed the end-of-year exam. (*have*)
7. The _____ a picture of chaos in our schools, but it's just not like that at all. (*present*)
8. _____ ordered an investigation of the capture of members of its peace-keeping force in eastern Africa. (*have*)

Miscellaneous

Task 22. *Read the sentences and comment on agreement in them.*

1. The number of Congress members *is* about 400.
2. An enormous number of photographs *were* taken.
3. The number of books in this library *is* great.
4. A number of new dictionaries *are* on sale now.
5. Mathematics *is* not always an exact science.
6. The mathematics (calculations) of the project *are* not quite exact.
7. Statistics *is* a course many students really dread.
8. The statistics of that study *are* highly questionable.
9. A great variety of whisky *is* produced in Scotland.
10. The variety of magazines on sale today *is* amazing.
11. A great variety of children's toys *are* produced in the world.
12. He tells me that most of Majorca *is* mountains.
13. Most of us *have* strong views on life.
14. Most Arabic speakers *understand* English.
15. The amount of student grants at this University *is* considerable.
16. The percentage of young voters *has* risen.
17. A percentage of the work *is* finished.
18. A percentage of the reports *are* finished.
19. Sixty per cent of the students *are* working.
20. Sixty per cent of the work force *is* absent.
21. The majority of teachers at our schools *are* women.

Task 23. *Read the sentences and comment on agreement in them.*

1. That *is* what attracts me.
2. It *is* our children we live for.
3. It *was* they who decided to do all this.
4. The ten minutes *is* up.
5. Two plus two *is* four.
6. Two metres *is* not enough for such a dress.
7. Twenty years *is* nothing in comparison with eternity.
8. It *is* they, not you, who *are* responsible for it.
9. Twenty five dollars *is* the price of the return ticket.
10. 'Seven Days' *is* a very popular magazine.
11. Just look! This lazybones *is* sleeping again!
12. 'Gulliver's Travels' *was* my favourite book when I was a kid.
13. What a butter-fingers Tom *is*!
14. The Netherlands *is* a beautiful country.
15. It *was* a summons from the local police station.
16. Broadcasting House *is* the headquarters of the BBC.

Task 24. *Choose the correct completions.*

1. The weather (*is / are*) cold.
2. Vegetables (*is / are*) good for you.

3. Each boy (*has / have*) his own locker in the gym.
4. A dog (*barks / bark*).
5. Dogs (*barks / bark*).
6. Ann with Sue (*is / are*) at home.
7. Ann and Sue (*is / are*) at home.
8. Every boy and girl (*is / are*) here.
9. A boy and a girl (*is / are*) in the street.
10. Eating vegetables (*is / are*) good for you.

Task 25. Give the right form of the verbs in brackets.

1. Ten kilograms (*be*) a lot to lose in one month.
2. Five minutes (*be*) given to each speaker.
3. Half of her fortune (*be*) in jewels.
4. Half of her jewels (*be*) stolen.
5. Half of the cake (*be*) eaten.
6. Half of the pies (*be*) eaten.
7. Statistics (*be*) a very important science in the life of any society.
8. Recent statistics on birth-rate in this country (*be*) not very encouraging.
9. All of the money (*be*) gone.
10. All of the books (*be*) lost.
11. The number of homeless people (*be*) great.
12. A number of women now (*be*) against the new trends in fashion.
13. The cargo on the ship (*be*) oranges.
14. Many a prisoner (*have*) tried to escape.
15. It (*be*) they who raised the question.
16. It (*be*) millions of miles to the moon.
17. Seventy-nine years (*be*) a long time to love and to hate.
18. The contents of the glass (*be*) not hard to guess. Poison it was.

Task 26. Choose the right verb form. Mind the ambiguous cases.

1. Visiting relatives (*is, are*) necessary.
2. Flying planes (*is, are*) dangerous.
3. It (*pains, pain*) me to see so much misery in the world.
4. Walls of glass (*characterizes, characterize*) much modern architecture.
5. In many species, the male, as well as female, (*cares, care*) for the offspring.
6. A backpack, a canteen, and a rifle (*was, were*) issued to each recruit.
7. Drinking and driving (*remains, remain*) a major cause of highway fatalities.
8. Fried ham and grits (*is, are*) Diane's idea of a great breakfast.
9. His closest friend and political ally (*was, were*) his brother.
10. Laws, rules, or convention (*governs, govern*) most of our everyday decisions.
11. The football team (*was, were*) beginning to quarrel with one another, when he arrived.
12. There (*is, are*) a table, four chairs, and a sofa in the room.
13. The committee (*has, have*) arranged a new series of programmes.
14. The jury (*has, have*) been unable to decide upon a verdict.
15. He inspected each of the cars which (*was, were*) in the garage.
16. Fiona, along with her friends, (*is, are*) planning a party.

17. Each generation (*has, have*) its own slang.
18. That generation (*has, have*) sold their souls for money.
19. The crew (*was, were*) experienced pilots.
20. This bunch (*was, were*) whispering excitedly.

Task 27. Choose the correct completions. Underline the word(s) that determine whether the verb is singular or plural.

1. Some of the fruit in this bowl (*is, are*) rotten.
2. Some of the apples in that bowl (*is, are*) rotten.
3. Most of the movie (*is, are*) funny.
4. Most of the movies (*is, are*) funny.
5. Half of the students in the class (*is, are*) from Arabic-speaking countries.
6. Half of this money (*is, are*) yours.
7. A lot of the students in the class (*is, are*) from Southeast Asia.
8. A lot of clothing in those stores (*is, are*) on sale this week.
9. One of my best friends (*is, are*) coming to visit me next month.
10. Each boy in the class (*has, have*) his own notebook.
11. Each of the boys in the class (*has, have*) his own notebook.
12. Every of the students (*is, are*) required to take the final test.
13. None of the animals at the zoo (*is, are*) free to roam. All of them (*is, are*) in enclosures.
14. A number of students (*is, are*) absent today.
15. The number of employees in my company (*is, are*) approximately ten thousand.
16. One of the chief materials of bones and teeth (*is, are*) calcium.
17. (*Does, Do*) all of the students have their books?
18. (*Does, Do*) all of this homework have to be finished by tomorrow?
19. Why (*was, were*) some of the students excused from the examination?
20. Why (*was, were*) one of the students excused from the examination?

Task 28. Take turns making sentences.

	... <i>is/are unusual</i> <i>is/are secondhand</i> .
1.	The story > <i>The story is unusual.</i>	11.	The furniture
2.	The stories	12.	A lot of the furniture
3.	Some of the story	13.	A lot of the chairs
4.	Some of the stories	14.	Some of the furniture
5.	Two-thirds of the story	15.	Half of the furniture
6.	One of the stories	16.	None of the furniture
7.	Each of the stories	17.	Some of the chairs
8.	None of the story	18.	Three-fourths of the furniture
9.	None of the stories	19.	Seventy-five per cent of the furniture
10.	A number of stories	20.	Half of the chairs

Task 29. Choose the correct completions.

1. The United States (*has, have*) a population of around 300 million.
2. The news about Mr. Gonzalez (*is, are*) surprising.

3. The *New York Times* (*is, are*) an established and respected newspaper.
4. Physics (*seek, seeks*) to understand the mysteries of the physical world.
5. Statistics (*is, are*) a branch of mathematics.
6. The statistics in that report on oil production (*is, are*) incorrect.
7. Fifty minutes (*is, are*) the maximum length of time allowed for the exam.
8. Twenty dollars (*is, are*) an unreasonable price for the necklace.
9. Many people in the world (*does, do*) not have enough to eat.
10. The police (*is, are*) prepared in case there is a riot.
11. Rabies (*is, are*) an infectious and often fatal disease.
12. The French (*is, are*) proud, independent people.
13. French (*is, are*) not my native language.
14. Many Japanese (*commutes, commute*) to their places of work.
15. Portuguese (*is, are*) somewhat similar to Spanish, (*isn't it, aren't they*)?
16. The poor (*is, are*) helped by government programs.
17. The blind (*want, wants*) the rest of us to treat them the same way we treat everyone else.
18. The effect of a honeybee's sting on a human being (*depends, depend*) on that person's susceptibility to the bee's venom. Most people (*is, are*) not in danger if they are stung, but there (*has, have*) been instances of allergic deaths from a single honeybee sting.

Task 30. Check your knowledge by choosing the correct words (or numbers) in parentheses. Then complete the sentences with *is* or *are*.

1. (*The Scots, The Irish, The English*) _____ famous for educational institutions like Oxford and Cambridge.
2. (*Statistics, Linguistics, Physics*) _____ the study of the structure and nature of language.
3. (*Diabetes, Measles, Rabies*) _____ a blood-sugar illness.
4. (*English, French, Afrikaans*) _____ the official language of Namibia.
5. People from Canada _____ called (*Canadas, Canadians, Canadese*).
6. Approximately (*60 percent, 70 percent, 80 percent*) of the earth _____ covered by water, but only (*one percent, ten percent, twenty percent*) of the earth's water _____ drinkable.
7. $312 * 0.5 + 100$ _____ (227, 275, 256).
8. (*The United Arab Emirates, The Netherlands, The Philippines*) _____ in the Northern Hemisphere (i.e., north of the equator).
9. (*Fish, Whales, Cattle*) _____ not mammals.

Task 31. Complete the sentences. Use the simple present form of the verbs in parentheses.

1. My alarm clock (*ring*) _____ at seven every morning.
2. There (*be*) _____ a lot of sheep in the field.
3. One of my friends (*keep*) _____ a goldfish bowl on her kitchen table.
4. Sensitivity to other people's feelings (*make*) _____ Giorgio a kind person.
5. Each car, truck, and motorcycle (*be*) _____ stopped at the border by customs officials.
6. My driver's license (*be*) _____ in my wallet.
7. (*Do*) _____ Sergei's uncle live in the suburbs?
8. (*Do*) _____ most of the students live in the dormitories?
9. An orange and black bird (*be*) _____ sitting in that tree.

10. An orange bird and a black bird (*be*) _____ sitting in that tree.
11. The insurance rates on our car (*be*) _____ high because we live in a city.
12. (*Be*) _____ January and February the coldest months of the year in the Northern Hemisphere?
13. Almost two-thirds of the land in the southwestern areas of the country (*be*) _____ unsuitable for farming.
14. A car with poor brakes and no brake lights (*be*) _____ dangerous.
15. Almost all the information in those texts on the Aztec Indians and their civilization (*appear*) _____ to be well researched.
16. Every day there (*be*) _____ more than a dozen traffic accidents in the city.
17. No news (*be*) _____ good news.
18. Four hours of skiing (*provide*) _____ plenty of exercise.



Task 32. *Circle the correct verb.*

1. Each skater in the competition (*has / have*) trained since childhood.
2. A convention of English teachers from all over the world (*take / takes*) place every spring.
3. Some of the new movies (*is / are*) good, but a lot of them (*have / has*) too much violence.
4. We saw a film about India last night. Some of the movie (*was / were*) fascinating, and there (*was / were*) a lot of beautiful mountain scenes.
5. Three-fourths of the patients who (*take / takes*) this new medicine report improvement.
6. Almost three-quarters of the surface of the earth (*is / are*) covered by water.
7. There (*is / are*) 100 senators in the United States Senate. The number of votes necessary for a simple majority (*is / are*) 51.
8. There (*has / have*) been some encouraging news about pandas in recent years. There (*is / are*) more pandas living today than there (*was / were*) ten years ago.
9. The United Arab Emirates (*is / are*) a country in the Middle East.
10. The *New York Times* (*is / are*) an important newspaper.
11. Economics (*is / are*) impossible for me to understand.
12. Diabetes (*is/are*) an illness. People who (*has / have*) it must be careful with their diet.
13. Five dollars (*is / are*) too much to pay for a pencil!
14. The English (*speak / speaks*) with an accent that is different from the American accent.
15. The handicapped (*use / uses*) a special entrance in this building.

Task 33. *Complete the sentences with the correct form of the given verb. Use any appropriate tense.*

1. Nearly 90 per cent of the people in our town always (*vote*) _____ in local elections.
2. In recent years, a number of students (*participate*) _____ in language programs abroad.
3. The number of students who knew the answer to the last question on the exam (*be*) _____ very low.
4. Every one of the boys and girls in the school (*know*) _____ what to do if the fire alarm rings.
5. A lot of people in the United States (*speak*) _____ and (*understand*) _____ Spanish.

6. Why (*be*) _____ the police standing over there right now?
7. Why (*broadcast*) _____ most of the television stations _____ news at the same hour every night?
8. Some of the most important books for my report (*be*) _____ not available in the school library, so I'll have to look for information on the internet.
9. Recently there (*be*) _____ times when I have seriously considered dropping out of school.
10. None of the women in my office (*receive*) _____ a promotion in the past two years. All of the promotions (*go*) _____ to men.
11. The news on the radio and TV stations (*confirm*) _____ that a serious storm is approaching our city.
12. Geography (*be*) _____ fascinating. Mathematics (*be*) _____ fascinating. I love those subjects!
13. Mathematics and geography (*be*) _____ my favourite subjects.
14. By law, every man, woman, and child (*have*) _____ the right to free speech. It is guaranteed in our constitution.
15. (*Be, not*) _____ sugar and pineapple the leading crops in Hawaii now?
16. Why (*be*) _____ there a shortage of certified school teachers at the present time?
17. How many states in the United States (*begin*) _____ with the letter 'A'?
18. The United States (*consist*) _____ of 50 states.
19. What places in the world (*have*) _____ no snakes?
20. Politics (*be*) _____ a constant source of interest to me.
21. (*Be*) _____ there ever any doubt in your mind about the outcome of the election? You were sure that Garcia was going to win, weren't you?

Task 34. *Correct the mistakes if necessary.*

1. The books in my office is very valuable to me.
2. All of the windows in our house were broken in the earthquake.
3. A lot of the people in my class works during the day and attends class in the evening.
4. Many of the satellites orbiting the earth is used for communications.
5. The news about the long-range effects of air pollution on the development of children's lungs is disturbing.
6. Studying a foreign language often lead students to learn about the culture of the countries where it is spoken.
7. One of the most common names for dogs in the United States are 'Rover.'
8. A number of planes were delayed due to the snowstorm in Denver.
9. Most of the mountain peaks in the Himalayan Range is covered with snow the year round.
10. The number of passengers affected by the delays was great.
11. Seventy-five per cent of the people in New York City lives in upstairs apartments, not on the ground floor.
12. Approximately 76 per cent of all the data in computers around the world are in English. (formal)
13. Unless there are a profound and extensive reform of government policies in the near future, the economic conditions in that country will continue to deteriorate.
14. While I was in Paris, some of the best food I found were not at the well-known eating places but in small out-of-the-way cafes.

Task 35. Complete the sentences with the present tense of the appropriate verb from the list. Some verbs may be used more than once.

be contain cost drive like make remind

1. There _____ an old barn near our town. The barn has been converted to a bookstore, and its name is The Old Barn Bookstore.
2. It's a very popular place, especially on weekends. People _____ it a lot. They _____ out to the barn on weekends.
3. It's about twenty miles from downtown. Twenty miles _____ a long drive, but the bookstore is worth the drive.
4. A lot of the books in The Old Barn Bookstore _____ not new books. There _____ a lot of used books, old books, and even valuable antique books.
5. There _____ a large number of beautiful art books too. Each one _____ excellent photographs of famous pieces of art. Alost of these books _____ quite expensive.
6. I'm thinking about buying a few nice art books there. One of the books _____ over a hundred dollars because it is very valuable. It has an autograph and an inscription by Ernest Hemingway.
7. There _____ a small cafe in The Old Barn Bookstore too. You can sit there for hours if you want, browsing through the books you are thinking of buying. The number of food items on the menu _____ very small, but about twenty different kinds of coffee _____ served.
8. Last Sunday I was browsing through some books when suddenly I heard several people speaking French. When I looked up, I saw six people at the next table, all speaking excitedly. I used to understand French, but now French _____ very difficult for me to understand. However, hearing French always _____ me of my days as a student and _____ me feel young again.



Task 36. Correct the mistakes if necessary.

1. A number of people has tried unsuccessfully to find the treasure .
2. Two hundred euros are too much to pay for an hour's consultation.
3. One of you are going to have to stand.
4. Fish and chips are a very popular British meal.
5. A couple of unexpected problems has arisen.
6. Experience of working with handicapped children are an advantage.
7. Fifteen hours are a long time to drive non-stop.
8. John's interest in tropical animals and birds are becoming an obsession.
9. The majority of the new MPs is 40 or younger.
10. £5 doesn't buy as much as it used to.
11. Most of the people who were at the barbecue came on a bike.
12. The structure of animal societies are often very complex.

Task 37. Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use only the Present Simple.

1. Wild geese _____ (fly) south for the winter.
2. The press _____ (be) often unfair to political candidates.
3. Six months _____ (be) a long time to spend in hospital.
4. Two miles _____ (be) not a long way to walk to school.
5. Economics _____ (be) difficult for people with poor maths skills.
6. American Airlines _____ (be) one of the largest earners in the United States.
7. The stairs _____ (be) too steep for me to climb.
8. Two-thirds of the food produced on the farm _____ (be) used to food people in that region.
9. _____ (be) the number of students studying French falling?
10. Bus trips to and from New York _____ (take) two hours either way.
11. International news _____ (rely) on correspondents in every major city.
12. Five pounds _____ (be) quite a lot of money to lose.
13. In the Philippines, there _____ (be) heavy rains each year.
14. Two hours per week _____ (be) not enough to learn a foreign language.

Task 38. Underline the correct item. Sometimes both of them are correct.

1. The advice she gave me *was / were* very helpful.
2. Her earnings *are / is* very low.
3. The weather *are / is* very unpredictable in England.
4. Sugar *is / are* bad for your teeth.
5. Most people *go / goes* on holiday at least once a year.
6. Physics *is / are* the study of natural laws.
7. Football *are / is* a popular sport.
8. All of his clothes *was / were* on the floor.
9. Her stunning looks *is / are* the key to her success.
10. Her brother's death *was / were* traumatic.
11. Athletics *is / are* challenging.
12. Her love of money *was / were* almost an obsession.
13. His luggage *was / were* extremely heavy.
14. *Is / Are* the information correct?
15. The old couple *is / are* moving to the coast.
16. The staff of the hospital *is / are* very helpful.
17. Billiards *is / are* played by many people.
18. There *is / are* a lot of sheep in that field.
19. The company headquarters *is / are* in London.
20. Darts *is / are* a popular game in Britain.
21. The news *is / are* on at 6 o'clock.

Task 39. Supply *is, are, has or have*.

1. The acoustics in this room _____ very good.
2. This crossroads _____ dangerous.
3. There _____ four crossroads in our village.
4. Acoustics _____ a subject I know little about.
5. Our company headquarters _____ in London.

6. There _____ many series of books on birds.
7. _____ there any kennels in this area?
8. The statistics in this report _____ inaccurate.
9. _____ there any statistics for road accidents?
10. Many species of moth _____ disappeared.
11. This species _____ green and white spots.
12. Our works _____ a good canteen.
13. My maths _____ got worse and worse!
14. There _____ crossroads every mile.

Task 40. *Correct any mistakes in these sentences if necessary.*

1. The United States come top of the list of countries ranked by economic performance.
2. The people I know who have seen the film say that it's really good.
3. A report in the *Sunday Times* detail the crimes of a 14-year-old boy in Southcastle.
4. *Northern Lights* are one of Suzanne's favourite books.
5. The stairs leading to the first floor were steep and poorly lit.
6. Chequers is the country house of the British Prime Minister.
7. Whoever made all the mess in the kitchen have to clear it up.
8. The phrase 'men in white coats' are used to talk about psychiatrists.
9. The public needs to be kept informed about progress in the peace talks.
10. Musical chairs are a party game where everyone dashes for a seat when the music stops.

Task 41. *Complete the sentences with the correct form of a suitable verb.*

1. Rickets _____ a disease caused by a lack of vitamin D.
2. The 10,000 kilometres _____ the longest walking competition in the Olympics.
3. Hollywood classic *The Women* _____ showing at the London Film Festival this week.
4. Saudi Arabia, along with most of the oil-producing nations, _____ voted to raise the price of crude oil again.
5. What he'd really like us to buy him for his birthday _____ some new Nike trainers.
6. Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding _____ definitely still the favourite of many British people!
7. My brother thinks that economics _____ really interesting. I disagree.
8. That band _____ always had a reputation for performing better in the studio than live.
9. Both my brother and sister _____ lived in this town all their lives.
10. The local police _____ interviewing several suspects in connection with the recent attacks.

Task 42. *Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets.*

I sometimes think that society 1) _____ (throw) away things without even thinking of repairing them. Trousers 2) _____ (be) easy to mend or can be made into shorts which 3) _____ (look) nice on most people. Pliers that 4) _____ (be) broken or scissors that 5) _____ (be) blunt can be fixed or sharpened. Clothes 6) _____ (be) expensive and household goods always 7) _____ (prove) useful so why 8) _____ (be) these belongings often thrown away? Intelligence 9) _____ (be) not really needed, just common sense. Congratulations 10) _____ (be) in order for those who 11) _____ (use) their heads in this way. An old pair of jeans which 12) _____ (be)

used for gardening, pyjamas which 13) _____ (become) dishcloths and tights which 14) (strain) food, all make our earnings 15) _____ (go) further.

Task 43. *The US computer company Macroworth announced today that it is to move some of its operation to Camford in Britain. Here is an extract from the announcement. Make any necessary corrections to the verb to be.*

The new premises we plan to occupy in Camford is now being built. The outskirts of this city is an ideal site for a company like ours. R and D are an important part of our work, and next year fifty per cent of our budget are to be spent on our Camford centre. Some of our staff in the US are being asked to relocate, and eventually around ten per cent of our US workforce are to move to Britain. However, the majority of our new employees is to be recruited locally, and we think that the local community are going to benefit enormously from this development. A number of business leaders and the local Member of Parliament is being invited to a meeting next week. Unfortunately, neither the Company President nor the Managing Director of Macroworth are available to address that meeting, but I and other senior managers am to attend.

Task 44. *Complete these extracts from newspaper articles with a singular or plural form of the verbs in brackets. If both singular and plural forms are possible, give them both.*

1. The outskirts of our cities _____ (have) benefited from the new out-of-town shopping centres that _____ (have) recently been built.
2. On average, 25 litres of water _____ (be) used each day by each household and it is anticipated that as the population _____ (expect) higher living standards, this figure will rise.
3. It has been found that some 30 per cent of the office space in London _____ (be) presently empty and the Department of Employment _____ (blame) high property prices.
4. Three centimetres _____ (be) all that separated the first two runners in last night's metres and the sports club _____ (have) declared the race a dead-heat.
5. The research group now _____ (admit) that the criteria they used in the work _____ (be) not totally reliable.
6. Following last week's major art theft from the Arcon Art Gallery, the premises _____ (be) searched by police last night and the owner's belongings _____ (have) been taken away for further inspection.
7. A survey of the opinions of British students _____ (show) that economics _____ (be) the least popular subject studied at university. However, 90 per cent of all those economics students surveyed _____ (believe) that their courses are well taught.
8. Sufferers from diabetes _____ (have) welcomed the launch by Federex of a new drug to combat the disease. The company _____ (say) that earnings from the drug _____ (be) to be put back into further research.

Task 45. *Put in singular or plural verb-forms.*

LIES, DAMN LIES?

Statistics (be)¹ _____ a branch of economics, but it is often said that there (be)² _____ lies, damn lies and statistics. Recent statistics of British life (show)³ _____ that the family (be)⁴ _____ happier than it used to be. The youth of today (be)⁵ _____ likely to live longer than the previous generation. People (own)⁶ _____ more things than they used to, but more police (be)⁷ _____ employed to fight crime. Mathematics (be)⁸ _____ a subject which is studied

more by boys than by girls, as *(be)*⁹ _____ physics. The earnings of working women *(be)*¹⁰ _____ getting higher all the time and many women earn more than their husbands. Good manners *(be)*¹¹ _____ declining. The public *(spend)*¹² _____ more on clothes, and clothes *(be)*¹³ _____ becoming more and more expensive. Glasses *(be)*¹⁴ _____ worn by more people, but only a minority *(favour)*¹⁵ _____ contact lenses. Statistics *(make)*¹⁶ _____ us want to grind our teeth and can probably tell us if we have any teeth left to grind!

Task 46. Complete the sentences with present simple forms of the verb in brackets. If both a singular and plural form are possible, give them both.

1. Plenty of European football clubs _____ interested in signing Nilsen from Rowham City, but the Rowham manager has said that no-one at the club _____ Nilsen to leave. (*be / want*)
2. The majority of those questioned _____ that the government's economic policies have failed, although neither the Prime Minister nor the Education Minister _____ indicated that these policies will change. (*think / have*)
3. 'It's the first time that either of us _____ been to China, but everyone we've met here _____ been very welcoming and helpful.' (*have / have*)
4. Professor Smith and Dr Peters _____ that the wreck of the ship and its cargo _____ a danger to local people fishing near the island. (*claim / constitute*)
5. 'Oh, good, sausages and chips _____ my favourite.' 'Sorry, all the sausages _____ gone, but there _____ plenty of chips left if you want some.' (*be / have / be*)

Task 47. For each set of sentences, choose an appropriate noun or phrase from the boxes. Use the present simple for the verb, active or passive as appropriate. If both singular and plural verb forms are possible, give them both.

1.

his early paintings
Dr Jones's acquaintances
my children
the food

know
remain
remember
taste

- a. I'd be surprised if any of _____ my birthday.
- b. It's unlikely that any of _____ It seems that he destroyed most of the work he produced during the 1930s.
- c. I don't think any of _____ particularly good. In fact, the restaurant is rather disappointing.
- d. An investigation is underway to discover whether any of _____ where he is.

2.

other museums
victims
medicines
vegetarians

charge
exceed
expect
relieve

- a. Mainly because of the recent health scares involving beef and chicken, the number of _____ to rise dramatically in the next five years.

- b. You can still go into the National Museum for free, although a number of _____ in the capital _____ people for entry.
- c. A number of _____ the symptoms of influenza, but none can cure it.
- d. It is estimated that the number of _____ of the flooding _____ a hundred thousand, and further deaths are anticipated.

3.

player
the cars
the pieces
these factors

influence
last
test
try

- a. The whole concert includes 20 short items from young musicians. Each of _____ about 5 minutes.
- b. There are four major influences on exchange rates: price levels, tariffs, preference for imported goods, and productivity. Here we investigate how each of _____ the exchange rate.
- c. The aim of the game is quite simple. Each _____ to buy as many properties on the board as possible.
- d. Each of _____ for safety, fuel economy and reliability.

Task 48. *Make any necessary corrections to the underlined verbs.*

1. Dr Jones's whereabouts has been kept a closely guarded secret by his family.
2. Bill Clinton's politics was inspired by John Kennedy.
3. Phenomena such as sun spots have puzzled scientists for centuries.
4. Some 30 per cent of the milk drunk in the country are imported.
5. When the soldiers got lost in the jungle, their only means of survival were to eat berries.
6. Over the last decade the company's overheads has increased dramatically.
7. The research data was collected during the period 12th-29th July 2002.
8. You don't need much sugar for this pudding; ten grams are enough.
9. Modern linguistics is often said to have begun at the start of the 20th century.
10. Congratulations goes to Richard Branch for his excellent exam results.
11. The coastal surroundings of the village is particularly attractive.
12. Nowadays politics seem to be more about saving money than changing society for the better.
13. He feels that the media have criticised him unfairly.
14. I know people often have to wait for hospital treatment, but two years seems ridiculously long.
15. Measles have killed a large number of children in the Nagola region.
16. Further particulars about the house are available from the owner.
17. Around 90 per cent of the concert audience was over 60 years old.
18. Ten kilometres are a long way to run if you're not fit.
19. If athletics are neglected in schools, this will have a big impact on future national teams.
20. People says the house is haunted.
21. Recent statistics provide firm evidence of a rapid increase in living standards in Asia.
22. About 60 per cent of the people questioned wants cars to be banned from the town centre.

Task 49. Find nine mistakes in the advertisement and correct them.

Adult Education Centre

ART CLASSES FOR ADULTS

Are art your passion?

Are you interested in drawing, painting or sculpture?

Would you like to improve your knowledge and skills?

Would you like to experience the deep sense of satisfaction you get from creating your own original work?

At East Hamley College a team of highly qualified tutors are available to help you improve your technique. We run art classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30 to 9.00. Each session cost £15 and last for two hours with a 30-minute break. We think you'll agree that £15 aren't a lot to pay for over two hours with the personal attention of our art teachers!

Both the painting and the sculpture classes takes place in the new annexe on Becton Road.

There also are a relaxing cafe selling coffee and a range of snacks where you can take a break and socialise with your fellow students.

You won't need to bring anything with you – we supply paint, papers and any other materials you needs. But wear something that you don't mind covering in paint. Every year, the work of our students are exhibited in a local gallery. So, if you're lucky, your work might get spotted – you could be the next Damien Hirst!

Task 50. Translate the sentences into English.

1. Ця команда – призер чемпіонату.
2. Команда мила палубу.
3. Сім'я сиділа за столом.
4. – А яка у нього сім'я? – Вони чудові люди.
5. Була утворена комісія для розробки нового проекту.
6. Комісія дотримується думки, що план може бути виконаний за два роки.
7. Люди зазвичай люблять, коли їх хвалять.
8. Мій клас – 7-Б.
9. Мій клас сьогодні абсолютно некерований.
10. Журі розділилося. Вони були не в змозі прийти до єдиного рішення.
11. У моїй родині всі люблять шоколад (*to be a chocoholic*).
12. На площі був величезний натовп народу.
13. Труп цього театру вчить ролі нового спектаклю.
14. Наша школа закривається на все літо.
15. Вся школа тільки й говорила про цю подію.
16. Рада складається з одинадцяти чоловік.
17. Співробітники збираються в конференц-залі.

Task 51. Translate the sentences into English.

1. І той, і інший варіант можливий.
2. Ні та, ні інша відповідь не є вірною.
3. Або керуючий, або його помічники відповідальні за поставки.
4. Ані діти, ані їх мати не займаються спортом.
5. Ніхто з нас не знає, чи було змінено зміст програми.

6. – Або ти, або він винен. – Ніхто не винен, просто не пощастило.
7. Вона примірила кілька пар взуття, але жодна з них не припала їй до смаку.
8. Жодне із завдань не було достатньо важким.
9. Тут не говорять ні російською, ні німецькою.
10. Жодна з двох альтернатив мене не влаштовує.
11. Було пізно, але жоден з дітей ще не спав.
12. Жоден із симптомів цієї хвороби поки не проявився.

Task 52. *Translate the sentences into English.*

1. Більшість студентів нашого університету – харків'яни.
2. Велика кількість ветеранів було запрошено на традиційну зустріч.
3. Кількість членів цього товариства постійно збільшується.
4. Дві третини золотого запасу країни витрачено.
5. Три чверті цього штату – чоловіки.
6. Більшість дітей люблять цирк.
7. Число книг, які потрібно прочитати з цього предмету, величезна.
8. Три чверті його часу присвячено роботі.
9. Тут представлена велика розмаїтість підручників з англійської мови.
10. Більшість моїх студентів цікавляться мовою.
11. Різноманітність магазинів в Мілані просто разюча.
12. В Харкові за останні роки з'явилася велика розмаїтість магазинів.
13. Більшість моїх друзів дотримується тієї ж думки.
14. Два відсотки бюджету виділяється на культуру.
15. Політика мене не цікавить.
16. Які політичні погляди цього керівника?
17. Акустика цього концертного залу дуже сучасна.
18. Акустика – це наука про звуки.

Task 53. *Translate the sentences into English.*

1. Це ми повинні все організувати, але не вони.
2. “Тисяча і одна ніч” – чудова книга.
3. Минуло двадцять п'ять років з тих пір, як вони одружилися.
4. Двадцять п'ять років шлюбу – це більше, ніж любов.
5. Три мушкетери були нерозлучні.
6. “Три мушкетери” – один з найвідоміших романів А. Дюма.
7. Сорок кілометрів – відстань від Харкова до моєї дачі.
8. Це казка про трьох товстунів.
9. “Три товариші” Е.М. Ремарка були поставлені в місцевому театрі.
10. На столі лежала повістка.
11. Залишки її сніданку все ще були на кухонному столі.
12. Руїни Греції наповнені давньою історією.

Task 54. *Translate the sentences into English.*

1. Кількість навчальних закладів в столиці зростає з року в рік.
2. Роман “Великі надії” написав Ч. Діккенс.
3. На симпозіумі був присутній ряд відомих вчених.

4. “Кентерберійські оповідання” Чосера розповідають про різні соціальні групи людей.
5. Кількість дітей, які народжуються в країні, зменшується.
6. Роман, так само як і багато його екранізацій, дає поживу розуму.
7. Товар розвантажують якраз зараз.
8. Ніхто з нас не безгрішний.
9. Його знання мов і бізнесу допомагає йому в роботі.
10. Швидкість світла – 180 тисяч миль на годину.
11. Сто унцій золота коштують великих грошей.
12. Ні дівчинки, ні її батьків не було вдома.
13. Англія очікує, що кожна людина виконає свій обов’язок.
14. Журі розійшлося в думках.
15. Знати її означає любити її.
16. Засоби інформації вийшли з-під контролю під час цих подій.
17. – Дріжджі свіжі? – Вони найсвіжіші.
18. – Мій годинник відстає. – А мій поспішає.
19. Багато людей впевнені, що мафія всесильна.
20. Виявилось, що поліція замішана в цьому злочині.
21. Я не можу знайти тебе на цій фотографії. Який з них ти?
22. Жодна з партій не хоче висувати його своїм кандидатом.
23. – У швейцарців дуже цікава армія. Вона не воювала п’ятсот років. – Їм пощастило.
24. Ніхто настільки не сліпий, як ті, хто не хочуть бачити.
25. “Сто років самотності” Габріеля Маркеса – дуже цікавий роман.

Task 55. *Translate the sentences into English.*

1. Жінка з дитиною на руках стояла біля воріт.
2. Обидва брата, так само як і їх сестра, вчать водити машину.
3. У Ірини та Каті багато спільного.
4. На столі лежала розгорнута книжка і кілька журналів.
5. Джин і тонік – його улюблений напій.
6. Першого вересня кожен студент отримує студентський квиток.
7. Ця фотографія моїх шкільних друзів нагадує мені про шкільні роки.
8. Якість цих товарів прекрасне.
9. Рекламні ролики на телебаченні стають все більш винахідливими.
10. У кожного з нас свої обов’язки.
11. Я, так само як і ви, задоволений результатами роботи.
12. Все готово.
13. Всі готові розпочати дослідження.
14. Олексій – один з тих співробітників, які завжди працюють понад норму.
15. Фактично, Алік – єдиний співробітник, який завжди працює понаднормово.
16. У кожному місті, містечку, селі є головна вулиця.
17. Он там йдуть наші студенти і секретарка.
18. Ось і наш декан і викладачі.

KEYS

Task 1.

IS: money, news, linen, leafage, advice, information, weather, progress, knowledge, furniture, work, equipment, measles, mumps.

ARE: clothes, customs, memoirs, pence, glasses, police, arms, scissors, scales, jeans, pyjamas, poultry, cattle, the French, the rich.

Task 2.

1. is
2. is
3. are
4. is, is, is
5. are
6. are
7. is
8. are
9. is
10. are
11. astounds
12. is
13. Is
14. was
15. do
16. is
17. are ... is

Task 3.

1. are
2. are
3. is
4. is
5. are
6. is
7. is
8. are
9. is
10. is
11. is
12. is
13. is
14. are
15. is
16. are
17. is
18. is
19. are
20. is

Task 4.

1. strikes
2. is
3. are
4. Are
5. Does ... grow
6. are
7. does...come
8. Is
9. are
10. is
11. are
12. is
13. are
14. makes
15. is
16. are ... cost
17. are
18. are
19. are
20. were changed
21. tell
22. is
23. are

Task 5.

1. have
2. are
3. does
4. are
5. are
6. haven't
7. have
8. aren't, are
9. don't

Task 6.

1. is
2. are
3. is
4. are
5. are
6. has
7. were
8. was

Task 7.

1. allow
2. is
3. is
4. seem
5. is
6. shows
7. appears

Task 8.

1. is
2. suggests
3. is
4. appear
5. has
6. seems
7. are
8. is
9. are /is

Task 10.

1. is
2. are
3. are
4. was
5. is /are
6. is
7. has / have
8. has
9. has / have

Task 11.

1. is
2. is / are
3. is / are
4. is
5. is / are
6. have
7. is
8. are
9. has
10. have

Task 12.

1. is
2. are

3. are
4. is
5. wasn't
6. was
7. aren't
8. isn't
9. aren't
10. isn't
11. are
12. is
13. are
14. isn't
15. was

Task 13.

1. Either the Prime Minister or her deputy is opening the debate.
2. Either Tom or his friends are going to clean the car.
3. Either the children or their mother is delivering the letters.
4. Either the management or the workers are going to have to give way in the disagreement.

Task 14.

1. are
2. were
3. irritates
4. was
5. adds
6. is
7. are
8. was
9. have
10. are
11. is
12. was
13. were
14. was
15. were
16. votes / vote
17. dislikes
18. were entering
19. are
20. is
21. have
22. has
23. are
24. agree
25. are

26. is
27. approves
28. has
29. is
30. were
31. make
32. are
33. was
34. am
35. are
36. are planning

Task 16.

1. have, they say
2. are
3. has
4. are
5. is
6. live
7. closes
8. are
9. are, they haven't
10. are

Task 17.

1. is/are
2. is/are
3. are
4. is/are
5. has/have
6. are
7. have
8. are
9. is/are
10. are
11. is/are
12. have

Task 18.

1. was/were
2. has/have
3. have
4. were
5. has/have
6. was/were
7. were

8. has/have
9. has
10. were

Task 20.

1. are complex
2. True
3. True
4. is very disturbing
5. have changed
6. is an illness
7. True
8. is no longer
9. is now compulsory
10. compete in the games
11. are worrying investors
12. True

Task 21.

1. team play /plays
2. university refuse/ refuses
3. audience ... is
4. orchestra perform/ performs
5. jury includes
6. class have
7. press presents/ present
8. The United Nations has/ have

Task 24.

1. is
2. are
3. has
4. barks
5. bark
6. is
7. are
8. is
9. are
10. is

Task 25.

1. is
2. is
3. is
4. have been
5. has been

6. have been
7. is
8. are
9. is
10. are / have been
11. is
12. are
13. is
14. has
15. is
16. is
17. is
18. are

Task 26.

1. is
2. is
3. pains
4. characterize
5. cares
6. were
7. remains
8. is
9. was
10. governs
11. were
12. is
13. has
14. have / has
15. were
16. is
17. has
18. have
19. were
20. were

Task 27.

1. fruit is
2. apples are
3. movie is
4. movies are
5. students are
6. money is
7. students are
8. clothing is
9. one is

10. Each has
11. Each has
12. Every is
13. animals are, All are
14. A number are
15. The number is
16. One is
17. Do students
18. Does homework
19. were students
20. was one

Task 28.

1. is
2. are
3. is
4. are
5. is
6. is
7. is
8. is
9. are
10. are
11. is
12. is
13. are
14. is
15. is
16. is
17. are
18. is
19. is
20. are

Task 29.

1. has
2. is
3. is
4. seeks
5. is
6. are
7. is
8. is
9. do
10. are
11. is

12. are
13. is
14. commute
15. is ... isn't it
16. are
17. want
18. depends ... are ... have

Task 30.

1. The English are
2. Linguistics is
3. Diabetes is
4. English is
5. are Canadians
6. 70 percent is, one percent is
7. is 256
8. The Netherlands is
9. Fish are

Task 31.

1. rings
2. are
3. keeps
4. makes
5. is
6. is
7. Does
8. Do
9. is
10. are
11. are
12. Are
13. is
14. is
15. appears
16. are
17. is
18. provides

Task 32.

1. has
2. takes
3. are, have
4. was, were
5. take
6. is

7. are, is
8. has, are, were
9. is
10. is
11. is
12. is, have
13. is
14. speak
15. use,

Task 33.

1. vote
2. have participated
3. was
4. knows
5. speak, understand
6. are
7. do, broadcast
8. are
9. have been
10. have received, have gone
11. confirms
12. is, is
13. are
14. has
15. Aren't
16. is
17. begin, 4 states begin with the letter A: Alabama, Arkansas, Alaska, Arizona.
18. consists
19. have
20. is
21. was

Task 34.

1. The books in my office are very valuable to me.
2. True
3. A lot of the people in my class work during the day and attend class in the evening.
4. Many of the satellites orbiting the earth are used for communications.
5. True
6. Studying a foreign language often leads students to learn about the culture of the countries where it is spoken.
7. One of the most common names for dogs in the United States is 'Rover.'
8. True
9. Most of the mountain peaks in the Himalayan Range are covered with snow the year round.
10. True
11. Seventy-five per cent of the people in New York City live in upstairs apartments, not on the

ground floor.

12. True

13. Unless there is a profound and extensive reform of government policies in the near future, the economic conditions in that country will continue to deteriorate.

14. While I was in Paris, some of the best food I found was not at the well-known eating places but in small out-of-the-way cafes.

Task 35.

1. is

2. like, drive

3. is

4. are, are

5. are, contains, are

6. costs

7. is, is, are

8. is, reminds, makes

Task 36.

1. A number of people have tried unsuccessfully to find the treasure .

2. Two hundred euros is too much to pay for an hour's consultation.

3. One of you is going to have to stand.

4. Fish and chips is a very popular British meal.

5. A couple of unexpected problems have arisen.

6. Experience of working with handicapped children is an advantage.

7. Fifteen hours is a long time to drive non-stop.

8. John's interest in tropical animals and birds is becoming an obsession.

9. The majority of the new MPs are 40 or younger.

10. True

11. True

12. The structure of animal societies is often very complex.

Task 37.

1. fly

2. is/are

3. is

4. is

5. is

6. is

7. are

8. is

9. is

10. take

11. relies

12. is

13. are

14. is

Task 38.

1. was
2. are
3. is
4. is
5. go
6. is
7. is
8. were
9. are
10. was
11. is
12. was
13. was
14. is
15. is/are
16. is/are
17. is
18. are
19. is/are
20. is
21. is

Task 39.

1. are
2. is
3. are
4. is
5. is
6. are
7. Are
8. are
9. Are
10. have
11. has
12. has
13. has
14. are

Task 40.

1. comes top
2. True
3. details the crimes
4. is one of
5. True

6. True
7. has to clear
8. is used
9. True
10. is a party game

Task 41.

1. is
2. is
3. is
4. has
5. is/are
6. is
7. is
8. has/have
9. have
10. are/have been

Task 42.

1. throws
2. are
3. look
4. are
5. are
6. are
7. prove
8. are
9. is
10. are
11. use
12. is
13. become
14. strain
15. go

Task 43.

The new premises we plan to occupy in Camford **are** now being built. The outskirts of this city **are** an ideal site for a company like ours. R and D **is** an important part of our work, and next year fifty per cent of our budget **is** to be spent on our Camford centre. Some of our staff in the US are being asked to relocate, and eventually around ten per cent of our US workforce are to move to Britain. However, the majority of our new employees **are** to be recruited locally, and we think that the local community are going to benefit enormously from this development. A number of business leaders and the local Member of Parliament **are** being invited to a meeting next week. Unfortunately, neither the Company President nor the Managing Director of Macroworth **is** available to address that meeting, but I and other senior managers **are** to attend.

Task 44.

1. have ... have
2. is / ('are' is also possible, but less likely) ... expect / expects
3. is ... blames / blame
4. was ('were' is also possible, but less likely) ... has / have
5. admit / admits ... were
6. were ... have
7. shows ... is ... believe
8. have ... says / say ... are

Task 45.

1. is
2. are
3. show
4. is
5. is/are
6. own
7. are
8. is
9. is
10. are
11. are
12. spends/spend
13. are
14. are
15. favour/favours
16. make

Task 46.

1. are ... wants
2. think ... has (more likely than 'have' in this formal context)
3. has / have ... has
4. claim ... constitutes
5. is ... have ... are

Task 47.

1.
 - a. my children remember / remembers
 - b. any of his early paintings remains/ remain
 - c. any of the food tastes
 - d. any of Dr Jones's acquaintances knows ('know' is also possible, but a singular verb is perhaps more likely in the formal context that this example suggests)
2.
 - a. the number of vegetarians is expected
 - b. a number of other museums ... charge

- c. A number of medicines relieve
- d. the number of victims ... exceeds

3.

- a. Each of the pieces lasts/ last
- b. each of these factors influences ('influence' is also possible, but a singular verb is perhaps more likely in the formal context that this example suggests)
- c. Each player tries
- d. Each of the cars are/is tested

Task 48.

- 1. True / ('have' is also possible)
- 2. were
- 3. True
- 4. is
- 5. was
- 6. have
- 7. True / ('were' is also possible)
- 8. is
- 9. True
- 10. go
- 11. are
- 12. True
- 13. 'has' is more appropriate
- 14. True
- 15. has
- 16. True
- 17. True / ('were' is also possible)
- 18. is
- 19. is
- 20. say
- 21. True
- 22. want

Task 49.

Is art your passion?

Are you interested in drawing, painting or sculpture?

Would you like to improve your knowledge and skills?

Would you like to experience the deep sense of satisfaction you get from creating your own original work?

At East Hamley College a team of highly-qualified tutors **is** available to help you improve your technique. We run art classes on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6.30 to 9.00. Each session **costs** £15 and **lasts** for two hours with a 30-minute break. We think you'll agree that £15 **isn't** a lot to pay for over two hours with the personal attention of our art teachers!

Both the painting and the sculpture classes **take** place in the new annexe on Becton Road.

There also **is** a relaxing cafe selling coffee and a range of snacks where you can take a break

and socialise with your fellow students.

You won't need to bring anything with you – we supply paint, paper and any other materials you **need**. But wear something that you don't mind covering in paint. Every year, the work of our students **is** exhibited in a local gallery. So, if you're lucky, your work might get spotted – you could be the next Damien Hirst!

Task 50.

1. This team is the prize-winner of the championship.
2. The crew were washing the deck.
3. The family were sitting at the table.
4. – What are his family like? – They are wonderful people.
5. A commission was established to develop a new project.
6. The Commission has/have the opinion that the plan can be implemented in two years.
7. People usually love to be praised.
8. My class is 7-B.
9. My class are completely unmanageable today.
10. The jury were of different opinions. They were not able to come to a single decision.
11. All my family are chocoholics.
12. There was/were a huge crowd of people on the square.
13. The troupe of this theatre are learning the roles of the new play.
14. Our school closes for the whole summer.
15. The whole school were only talking about this incident.
16. The Council consists of eleven people.
17. The staff are gathering in the conference room.

Task 51.

1. Both options are possible. / Either this variant or that one is possible.
2. Neither answer is correct. / Neither this answer nor that one is correct.
3. Either the manager or his assistants are responsible for deliveries.
4. Neither the children nor their mother does sports.
5. None of us know whether the contents of the program have been changed.
6. – Either you or he is guilty. – Nobody is guilty, just unlucky.
7. She tried on several pairs of shoes, but none of them were chosen.
8. None of the tasks were/was difficult enough.
9. Neither Russian nor German is spoken here.
10. Neither of the two alternatives suit me.
11. It was late, but none of the children were asleep yet.
12. None of the symptoms of this disease has/have manifested yet.

Task 52.

1. The majority of students of our university are Kharkiv citizens.
2. A large number of veterans were invited to the traditional meeting.
3. The number of members of this society is constantly increasing.
4. Two-thirds of the country's gold reserve has been spent.
5. Three quarters of this staff is/are men.
6. Most children love the circus.

7. The number of books that are to be read on this subject is enormous.
8. Three quarters of his time is devoted to work.
9. A large variety of English textbooks are presented here.
10. Most of my students are interested in the language.
11. The variety of shops in Milan is simply amazing.
12. A wide variety of shops have appeared in Kharkov in recent years.
13. Most of my friends are of the same opinion.
14. Two per cent of the budget is allocated to the culture.
15. Politics does not interest me.
16. What are the politics of this leader?
17. The acoustics of this concert hall are very modern.
18. Acoustics is the science of sounds.

Task 53.

1. It is we not they who should organize everything.
2. 'A thousand and one nights' is a wonderful book.
3. Twenty-five years has passed since they got married.
4. Twenty-five years of marriage is more than love.
5. Three Musketeers were inseparable.
6. 'Three Musketeers' – is one of the most famous novels of Dumas.
7. Forty kilometres is the distance from Kharkiv to my dacha.
8. This is a fairy tale about three fat people.
9. 'Three Comrades' of. Remark was staged in the local theatre.
10. There was a summons on the table.
11. The remains of her breakfast were still on the kitchen table.
12. The ruins of Greece are full of ancient history.

Task 54.

1. The number of educational institutions in the capital is growing from year to year.
2. The novel 'Great Expectations' was written by Charles Dickens.
3. A number of well-known scientists were present at the symposium.
4. Chaucer's 'Canterbury Tales' narrates / narrate about various social groups of people.
5. The number of children born in the country is decreasing.
6. The novel, as well as many of its adaptations, gives food to the mind.
7. The goods are being unloaded just now.
8. None of us is/are sinless.
9. His knowledge of languages and business helps him in his work.
10. The speed of light is 180 thousand miles per hour.
11. A hundred ounces of gold costs a lot of money.
12. Neither the girl nor her parents were at home.
13. England expects / expect that each person will fulfil his duty.
14. The jury were of different opinions.
15. To know her is to love her.
16. The media was/were out of control during these events.
17. – Is the yeast fresh? – It is the freshest.
18. My watch is slow. – And mine is fast.

19. Many people believe that the mafia is/are all-powerful.
20. It turned out that the police were involved in this crime.
21. I cannot find you in this photo. Which of them are you?
22. None of the parties wants/want to nominate him as their candidate.
23. The Swiss have a very interesting army. They have not fought for five hundred years. – They are lucky.
24. None is /are as blind as those who do not want to see.
25. 'One Hundred Years of Solitude' by Gabriel Marquez is a very interesting novel.

Task 55.

1. A woman with a child in her arms was standing at the gate.
2. Both brothers, as well as their sister, are learning to drive.
3. Irina and Katya have much in common.
4. There was an open book and several magazines on the table.
5. Gin and tonic is his favourite drink.
6. On the first of September each student receives a student card.
7. This photo of my school friends reminds me of my school years.
8. The quality of these goods is excellent.
9. Commercials on television are becoming more and more inventive.
10. Each of us has/have his own responsibilities.
11. I, as well as you, am satisfied with the results of the work.
12. All is ready.
13. All are ready to start the experiment.
14. Alexei is one of those employees who always work above the norm.
15. In fact, Alik is the only employee who always works overtime.
16. Each city, town, village has its main street.
17. There go our students and the secretary over there.
18. Here is our dean and the teachers.

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