



# Grammar Toolkit

# Subject-Verb Agreement



- Correct form of 'to be' in past tense:

- *I was*
- *You were*
- *He/She/it was*
- *We were*

- *They were*

For example: *They were cold outside.*

**Not:** *They was cold outside* which we hear in spoken English dialects.

## Rule:

If the subject of the sentence is **singular**, then the verb form must be **singular** too.

If the subject of the sentence is **plural**, then the verb form must be **plural**, too.

*Example: The only thing these children understand is discipline.*

Singular  
subject

Singular  
verb form

Circle the correct verb form in each underlined pair to complete the sentences below.

The last place I saw the pencils was/were in the cupboard.\_

At the lake, there was/were many different water sports on offer.

The horses was/were lined up for the start of the race.

1  
mark



## Your Task

**Copy down** the statements with the correct verb form included.

The Answers Are On The  
Next Slide .....



*no peeking*

elyxandra

Circle the correct verb form in each underlined pair to complete the sentences below.

The last place I saw the pencils was in the cupboard.\_

At the lake, there were many different water sports on offer.

The horses were lined up for the start of the race.

1  
mark

**Answer**  
**er**

The first one is **tricky** because it is preceded by a plural noun.

Can you see that the main **subject** in the sentence is '*the last place*'



# Commas after fronted adverbials



- When using **time phrases** at the start of a sentence, use a **comma** before continuing with the main clause:
- *Immediately, she was aware of footsteps*
- *Last June, I went camping with my parents*
- *In 2010, there was an earthquake in Haiti.*

**Tick the option that correctly completes the sentence below.**

**- \_\_\_\_\_ caused a tsunami in South East Asia, killing 230,000 people.**

Tick  
one.

In 2004 a magnitude 9.3,  
earthquake

☐

In 2004 a magnitude 9.3  
earthquake,

☐

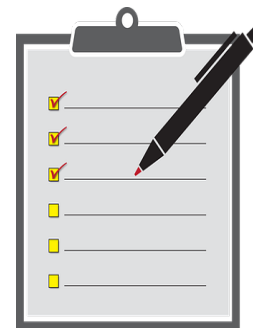
In, 2004 a magnitude 9.3  
earthquake

☐

In 2004, a magnitude 9.3  
earthquake

☐

1 mark



## **Your Task**

**Copy down the statement which correctly completes the sentence.**

The Answers Are On The  
Next Slide .....



*no peeking*

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**Tick the option that correctly completes the sentence below.**

- \_\_\_\_\_ caused a tsunami in South East Asia, killing 230,000 people.

Tick one.

In 2004 a magnitude 9.3, earthquake

☐

In 2004 a magnitude 9.3 earthquake,

☐

In, 2004 a magnitude 9.3 earthquake

☐

In 2004, a magnitude 9.3 earthquake

☐

1 mark

**Answer**

**er**

In 2004, a magnitude 9.3 earthquake caused a tsunami in South East Asia, killing 230,000 people.

*Did you remember capital letters for South East Asia?*



# Commas in lists



- When **listing items** or **actions**, use a comma between each item or action, **except the final** one preceded by '**and**':
- *I like bananas, strawberries, apples, grapes and mangoes.*
- *I go upstairs, clean my teeth, put on my pyjamas and get into bed.*
- *It is first dark, then light and then dark again.*

## Which sentence is punctuated correctly?

Tick one.

Anita went downstairs, took out her pencil sat down at the table and began.

☐

Anita went downstairs took out her pencil, sat down at the table and began.

☐

Anita went, downstairs took out her pencil sat down at the table and began.

☐

Anita went downstairs, took out her pencil, sat down at the table and began.

☐

**Your Task**  
**Copy down the statement which is punctuated correctly.**

The Answers Are On The  
Next Slide .....



*no peeking*

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**Which sentence is punctuated correctly?**

Tick one.

Anita went downstairs, took out her pencil sat down at the table and began.

☐

Anita went downstairs took out her pencil, sat down at the table and began.

☐

Anita went, downstairs took out her pencil sat down at the table and began.



Anita went downstairs, took out her pencil, sat down at the table and began.

☐

1  
mark

**Answer**

Anita went downstairs, took out her pencil, sat down at the table and began.



# Classes of Words



- **Nouns** – a ‘naming’ word, a thing: *(a book, love, Jack, a holiday)*
- **Pronouns** – replace a noun to avoid repetition: *(she, he, it, they)*
- **Adjectives** – describe a noun: *(beautiful, intelligent, red, sunny)*
- **Verbs** – a ‘doing’ word, an action: *(to go, to see, to be, to wonder)*
- **Adverbs** – describe a verb: *(quickly, worse, well,*



What is the word class of the underlined word in the sentence below?

The door opened and Raval knew instantly he was in the wrong place.

Tick  
one.

conjunction ☐

adverb ☐

verb ☐

determiner ☐

1 mark

## Your Task

Write the word '**instantly**' with its word class next to it.

Now **find examples** of the other three word classes in this sentence

The Answers Are On The  
Next Slide .....



*no peeking*

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What is the word class of the underlined word in the sentence below?

The door opened and Raval knew instantly he was in the wrong place.

Tick one.

conjunction

☐

adverb

☒

verb

☐

determiner

☐

1 mark

## Answer

Instantly = adverb

(it describes the verb 'to know')

Examples of the other three word classes in this sentence:

Conjunction = and

Verb = opened, know

Determiner = the



# Colons to add extra information



- Only use a colon after a clause that is a sentence in its own right, to add extra information.

## *Example:*

- *Mr Spears was delighted with his year 6 class (full sentence)*
- *Their attendance was 100% (additional information relating to the previous statement – does not need to be a full sentence)*

*Becomes:*

Tick one box to show  
the correct place for a  
colon in the sentence  
below.



Maya was extremely  
unhappy with new shoes  
they were not very  
waterproof.

1  
mark



## Your Task

Write the full  
sentence  
including a colon  
in the correct  
place.

The Answers Are On The  
Next Slide .....



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Tick one box to show  
the correct place for a  
colon in the sentence  
below.



Maya was extremely  
unhappy with new shoes  
they were not very  
waterproof.

1  
mark

**Answer**

Maya was  
extremely  
unhappy with new  
shoes: they were  
not very  
waterproof.

