

Name _____
 Date _____ Period _____

Follow directions for full credit!

Grammar Basics Study Guide/Practice

Possessive and Plural Nouns – Fill in the three rules for possessives below. Next, practice those rules by filling out all the columns.

Rule 1: To form the possessive form of a **singular noun**, add _____.

Rule 2: To form the possessive form of a **plural noun that ends in an s**, add _____.

Rule 3: To form the possessive form of a **plural noun that does NOT end in an s**, add _____.

<u>SINGULAR</u>	<u>SINGULAR POSSESSIVE</u>	<u>PLURAL</u>	<u>PLURAL POSSESSIVE</u>
1. monkey			
2. baseball			
3. man			
4. child			
5. goose			
6. baby			
7. hero			
8. wife			
9. puppy			
10. elf			

Subject – Verb Agreement

You probably have little trouble figuring out how to make your verbs agree with your subjects when the subjects are clearly singular or plural, as in these examples.

SINGULAR SUBJECT: Marie plays the piano.

PLURAL SUBJECT: My friends play soccer.

However, it is not so easy when there are complications in the way the subject is presented as with these statements:

COMPLICATION:

Use of *each, either, neither, anyone, anybody, everybody, everything, another, little, much*

Use of such compound subjects as *Sam and Angie* or indefinite plural pronouns such as *several, few, many, most, others, both*

RULE:

Use a singular verb.

Ex. *Neither* wants to get up at 7:00 am.
 Ex. *Nobody* is here.

Use a plural verb.

Ex. *Sam and Angie* are going.
 Ex. *Several of us* are angry.

FILL IN THE CHART

Singular Subject	Verb
Plural Subject	Verb

Directions: Identify the subject by underlining it. Then, circle the correct verb that agrees with the subject.

1. Overhead fans (was, were) circulating the warm air.
2. Peter and his brothers (go, goes) skating often.
3. The books on that shelf (is, are) very hard to reach.
4. The leader of the troops (expect, expects) to be obeyed.
5. The books on that shelf (is, are) very hard to reach.
6. The lamps, which (was, were) broken, now (work, works) properly.
7. Several storms in early summer (has, have) endangered our crops.
8. Sammy, my favorite of all the mice, (has, have) finally mastered the maze.
9. Mary, who loves to wear bright green clothes, (has, have) pale blue eyes.
10. The computer keys (stick, sticks) to my fingers and (need, needs) to be cleaned.
11. The pages of the letter, yellowed with age, (was, were) filled with beautiful handwriting.
12. One of the two teachers (is, are) eligible for promotion this year.
13. Spaghetti and pizza (is, are) his favorite foods.
14. Neither Max nor Clara (use, uses) ketchup on hamburgers or French fries.
15. Violet, Mia, and Devon's team (play, plays) well under pressure.
16. The chocolates in the fridge (taste, tastes) delicious.
17. Neither of the couches (is, are) comfortable.
18. Mathematics (is, are) my favorite subject.
19. Outdoor concerts during the summer (is, are) fun to go to, but the heat (is, are) sometimes hard to bear.
20. Some of the snakes, which (is, are) all poisonous, (is, are) milked for their venom.

21. The cows in that field (was, were) eating the newly-harvested hay.
22. The boys on that team not only (practice, practices) hard, but (study, studies) hard for class as well.
23. The coach of the cheerleaders (scream, screams) and (shout, shouts) directions for the dance.

Words Often Misspelled or Confused

their – possessive pronoun

to – in the direction of, toward

than – used for comparison

there – location

too – also, to an excessive degree

then – indicates time, answers *when*

they're – means *they are*

two – number after *one*

passed – past tense of *pass*

gone – used with *has* or *have*

loose – ill-fitting; roomy

past – the time before the present

going – act of *leaving* or *departing*

lose – to misplace; to NOT win

affect – means *to cause*

advise – giving an opinion or recommendation

your – possessive pronoun

it's – means *it is*

effect – means *result*

advice – opinion or recommendation

you're – you are

its – possessive pronoun

Directions: Circle the correct choice.

1. The (affect, effect) of the antibiotic on her infection was surprising.
2. In years (past, passed), we stayed up until midnight on New Year's Eve.
3. I always (loose, lose) track of time.
4. The lawyer (advised, advised) him to plead guilty.
5. (It's, Its) my birthday today.
6. His decision (affected, effected) everyone at his workplace.
7. Did you walk (to, too, two) school today?
8. Sara always listens to my (advice, advise).
9. Phyllis is (there, their, they're) daughter.
10. I strongly (advice, advise) you to call the doctor immediately.
11. The horse stamped (its, it's) foot (to, too, two) times.
12. I (passed, past) my ex-boyfriend in the hallway today; it was awkward!
13. I enjoy my science class much more (then, than) my algebra class.
14. The paper wad blew (passed, past) my ear so fast I could feel (its, it's) fast speed.
15. (Your, You're) (gone, going) (to, too, two) make an A on the test, which will (affect, effect) (your, you're) overall grade.
16. The senior class prank had a major (affect, effect) on the entire student body.
17. Your answer will not (affect, effect) your grade on the test.
18. One (affect, effect) of the new lenses is my ability to read more easily.
19. Adding salt to the batter (affects, effects) the taste of the cake.
20. My aunt and uncle are arriving tomorrow. (There, Their, They're) coming from California.
21. Have you seen where (there, their, they're) building that new road?

Complete Sentences, Fragments, & Run-Ons: Identify whether each sentence is a fragment (F), a run-on (RO), or correct (C). If the sentence is either a fragment or a run-on, write the sentence correctly.

- _____ 1. Tina made me mad she stole my cell phone.
- _____ 2. I am going to the football game on Friday.
- _____ 3. She went to the store, she went to the mall.
- _____ 4. I am going home after school.
- _____ 5. Standing in the rain without an umbrella.
- _____ 6. The gym is old the cafeteria is old too.
- _____ 7. James is going to the track after school.
- _____ 8. I walked to school yesterday, I rode the bus today because it was raining.
- _____ 9. Always watching sports on television.
- _____ 10. My uncle took me to an Atlanta Hawks game.
- _____ 11. Run!
- _____ 12. Because I hate being cold.
- _____ 13. The dog with the big ears and spots on its back.
- _____ 14. Spinning around in circles completely confused.
- _____ 15. I will pass this test with an A it's going to be a breeze.