**A singular subject takes singular verb:**

***ex: Tom rides his bike to work every day.***

**A plural subject takes a plural verb:**

*ex: The boys are climbing the walls like caged animals*.

**A subject made up of nouns joined by** and **takes a plural VERB**

***ex: Julie and Sam are going on vacation.***

**Two singular subjects connected by or, either/or, or neither/nor require a singular verb.**

Examples:  
My aunt or my uncle ***is*** arriving by train today.  
Neither Juan nor Carmen ***is*** available.  
Either Kiana or Casey ***is*** helping today with stage decorations.

**None takes a singular verb if what it refers to is singular and a plural verb if its referent is plural.**

*ex: None of the peas are left on Sean’s plate.  
None of the book is reproducible without permission.*

**With money, if the amount is specific, use a singular verb; if the amount is vague, use a plural verb.**

*ex: Within a year, $5 million was spent on building a new factory, and millions more were spent on training future factory workers.*

**In sentences beginning with here or there, the true subject follows the verb.**

**Examples:**  
There are four hurdles to jump.There is a high hurdle to jump.Here are the keys.

**Use a singular verb with distances, periods of time**

**Examples:**  
Three miles ***is*** too far to walk.Five years ***is*** the maximum sentence for that offense.**Verbs that accompany pronouns such as *all* and *some* will be determined by whether the pronoun is referring to something that is COUNTABLE or not**

*Some of the workers on the building* ***have*** *left for the day.*

*Some of the salt was spilled on the floor.*

**A collective noun takes the singular verb is it is acting in unison. It takes the plural if not acting in unison.**

Some collective nouns, such as family, couple, staff, audience, etc., may take either a singular or a plural verb, depending on their use in the sentence.

**Examples:**  
The staff is in a meeting.Staff is acting as a unit.The couple disagree about disciplining their child.The couple refers to two people who are acting as individuals.