

## Grammar Chapter 11: Subject/Verb agreement

7 Grammar rules for subject verb agreement are:

- 1) Words between the subject and verb; remove the prep. phrase to determine subject/verb agreement.
- 2) Compound subject – “Bill and Jane”
  - a. Usually identified by the word ‘and’
  - b. Rule – Use a plural verb
- 3) Verb comes before the subject – “What **was** your score?”
  - a. Locate the subject after the verb
  - b. Choose whether it should be singular or plural, based on the subject
- 4) Compound subjects with ‘or/nor’
  - a. Verb must agree with the part of the subject that is closest to the verb
- 5) Collective nouns (list on pg 123)
  - a. Usually considered singular; choose verb that would go with a singular nouns
- 6) Indefinite pronoun subjects (see list on pg 124) – “anybody”, “someone”
  - a. Usually singular; exceptions are “both” and “most” – treat these as plural
- 7) Relative pronoun subjects (who, which, that)
  - a. Singular when referring to a singular noun; plural when referring to a plural noun