

Agreed with is used in an agreement between two people. Agreed to is used to describe a willingness to implement a plan.

Isolated... from

Preoccupied.... With

Responsible... for

Capable... of

Potential... to

agree to (He agreed to the contract.)

agree with (She agreed with the majority opinion.)

an instance of (Cholera is an instance of a disease.)

for instance (There are many diseases, for instance, Cholera.)

claim to be (She claims to be an accomplished musician.)

determined by (The agenda was determined by the boss.)

estimated to be (The loss was estimated to be \$29 billion.)

estimated at (The loss was estimated at \$29 billion.)

except for (Everyone attended the meeting except for Jason.)

from... to (Everyone in the company agreed, from the boss to the janitor.)

mistake X for Y (It is easy to mistake zircon for diamond.)

potential for (This proposal holds the potential for disaster.)

prohibit X from Y (The contract prohibits the CEO from exercising his stock options for 6 months.)

range from X to Y (The prices range from \$25 to \$30 per gallon.)

targeted at (His suggestion was targeted at improving efficiency.)

think of X as Y (Most people think of themselves as above-average drivers.)

view X as Y (Most people view themselves as above-average drivers.)

Chapter 2: Grammar & Meaning

Avoid Redundancy

No right answer on the GMAT will be redundant. For example:

Wrong: The value of the stock ROSE by a 10% INCREASE
Right: The value of the stock INCREASED by 10%
Or: The value of the stock ROSE by 10%

This sometimes is tricked with “SUM to a TOTAL” ... Just need SUM or TOTAL

Pay special attention to expressions of time.

PAST: Previously, formerly, in the past, before now
PRESENT: Now, currently, presently, at present
YEARLY: Annual, each year, a year (three times a year)

Pure redundancy on GMAT is always wrong.

Chapter 3: Subject-Verb Agreement

Each sentence needs a subject and a verb.

SUBJECT: is the noun that performs the action
VERB: Expresses what action is preformed

“The DOG with the gray ears RUNS out of the house.”

Fragments & Run-Ons

A subject and verb must exist. If there is no working-verb or subject, it is a run on. The GMAT will try and trick you by putting the verb into subordinate clauses. Usually separated by connecting words. P40 SC.

Subject and Verb Must Agree in Number

This is straight forward for the most part. Just make sure you don’t get tricked by certain words that are plural but look single and vice-versa. More on this later.

Middle Men

Ignore middlemen to find the true subject-verb agreement. The following are the main categories of middlemen.

1. Prepositional Phrases

Words headed by prepositions such as

<u>Of</u> mice	<u>for</u> milk	<u>by</u> 1800
<u>in</u> Tenaflly	<u>with</u> her	<u>at</u> that level
<u>to</u> the store	<u>on</u> the orders	<u>from</u> the office

Prepositional phrases modify or describe other parts of a sentence

2. Subordinate Clauses

Words like who, or which, that act as connecting words.

3. Other Modifiers

Some more detail in chapter 6.

Often -ing forms derived from verbs (present participles)

Often -ed and -en forms derived from verbs (past participles)

And vs. Additive Phrases

The word AND can unite two or more singular subjects to form a compound PLURAL subject.

Joe AND his friends ARE going to the beach
Mathematics, history, AND science ARE mandatory subjects

Compound subjects take plural verb form (*are*)

Additive Phrases

These phrases also add to a subject, but unlike and, they DO NOT change the number of the subject.

along with Polly in addition to pizza as well as the mayor
accompanied by me together with a drink including salt and pepper

“Joe, as well as his friends, IS going to the beach.”

“Mathematics, in addition to history and science, IS a required subject.”

Or / Either... Or / Neither...Nor

These link two nouns. If one is singular and other is plural, the rule is to find the noun nearest to the verb and make that agree in number with this noun.

→ This doesn't count if there is no “or/nor” as part of the either/neither.

Collective Nouns: Almost Always Singular

These can look singular, usually do, and usually are. They refer to a group of people or objects.

→ Sometimes in rare case they can be plural. Bet on singular though if not sure

PEOPLE: Agency, army, audience, class, committee, crowd, orchestra, team

ITEMS: Baggage, citrus, equipment, fleet, fruit, furniture

Indefinite Pronouns: Usually Singular

Pronouns: words that replace other nouns or pronouns.

Indefinite pronoun: Is not specific about the thing to which it refers

ie: "anyone" is an example of an indefinite pronoun

All pronouns that end in -one, -body, or -thing, fall into this category:

Anyone, anybody, anything

Each, every (as pronouns)

Everyone, everybody, everything

Either, neither (may require a plural verb if paired with or/nor)

No one, nobody, nothing

Someone, somebody, something

Whatever, whoever

*However, the SANAM are 5 indefinite pronouns that can be either singular or plural depending on the context of the sentence.

Some/Any/None/All/More(Most) - SANAM

Usually you ignore the 'of' phrase. But this time you need to look to the of-prepositional phrase for help to determine the number of the subject.

"Some of the money WAS stolen from my wallet" (money is singular)

"Some of the documents WERE stolen from the bank" (documents are plural)

(note that not one is always singular. The term "not one" ... "Not one of my friends IS here")

Each & Every: Singular Sensations

Any subject preceded by each and every also become singular. As per rules above.

Please do note that the 'each' has to come BEFORE, if it comes after, then this rule doesn't count.

Every dog HAS paws
Every dog and cat HAS paws
Each of these shirts IS pretty

And after: "They each are great tennis players" ← see, doesn't matter if after

Quantity Words & Phrases

THE number of → SINGULAR

A number of → PLURAL

"A number of students in this class are cute"

"The number of dogs here is quite large

→ Words like majority, minority, plurality are dependent on context. Treat QUANTITY PHRASES in the same manor as SANAM using the of-prepositional phrase to select.

Subject Phrases & Clauses: Always Singular

Sometimes –ing phrase or clause can be the subject in a sentence. This sort of subject is always treated as singular.

"Having good friends IS a wonderful thing" ← subject is the phrase

"Whatever they want to do IS fine with me" ← subject is the clause

Flip It

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When in Doubt, Think Singular

Plural → subjects joined by AND / Subjects proceeded by A NUMBER OF

It depends → Subjects joined by OR, NOR / SANAM pronouns / Other numerical words and phrases

Chapter 4: Parallelism

Parallelism

Comparable sentence parts must be structurally and logically similar

Chapter 5: Parallelism

Chapter 6: Parallelism

Chapter 7: Parallelism