

EXERCISE 9

Making Subjects and Verbs Agree

Underline the verb that agrees in number with the subject.

1. Even after the devastation caused by Hurricane Katrina, New Orleans (is, are) the site of one of the most celebrated parties in the United States.
2. Though the event was temporarily scaled back, Mardi Gras (is, are) an event that refuses to die.
3. Mardi Gras, which means "Fat Tuesday," (is, are) always forty-six days before Easter.
4. But twelve days before that, the crowd (begins, begin) to grow.
5. All of the bands in the state of Louisiana (converges, converge) on New Orleans.
6. A visitor, along with just about all of the city's residents, (enjoys, enjoy) nonstop jazz and blues music.
7. Cajun and Creole food (satisfies, satisfy) the revelers' hungry appetites.
8. There (is, are) numerous parades, but the best ones (occurs, occur) during the last five days of the celebration.
9. Each of the spectacular parade floats (is, are) decorated and (carries, carry) riders wearing costumes.
10. Four miles (is, are) the length of a typical parade route.
11. Beads, coins, cups, and an occasional medallion (is, are) tossed from the floats into the crowd.
12. People who line the parade route (tries, try) to catch as many trinkets as they can.
13. One float, the best of all of that parade's floats, (wins, win) an award.
14. Some of the most popular festivities, besides a good parade, (is, are) the masked balls.
15. Every one of the costumes (is, are) outrageous and unique.
16. *Cajun Mardi Gras Masks* (is, are) a book that will give you some ideas.
17. The celebration (is, are) a happening of fun and frenzy.
18. After dark, there (is, are) fireworks in the night sky.
19. Neither the participants nor the curious onlooker (wants, want) the party to end.
20. (Is, Are) these days of merrymaking something you'd enjoy?

EXERCISE 7

Using Semicolons and Commas

Insert semicolons and commas where needed.

1. In September 1991, two hikers saw the head and shoulders of a dead man protruding through the ice of the Italian Alps and they assumed that the man was just another Alpine accident victim.
2. Rescue workers were summoned they used jackhammers to extricate the man's body and his possessions from the ice.
3. But then an archaeologist saw the copper ax found beside the corpse he realized that the body was actually a spectacular archaeological discovery.
4. The snow and ice had naturally mummified the corpse and it had been frozen there on the mountain for about 5,300 years.
5. The Iceman was a well-preserved specimen of a Neolithic human his remains were the oldest human flesh ever found.
6. During the Neolithic period, metal tools had begun to replace stone tools consequently the Iceman carried both a flint dagger and a copper ax.
7. X-rays and examinations of the Iceman's body showed that he had been about forty years old when he died he had been killed by an arrow shot into his back.
8. He had also suffered other wounds for example his hand had been deeply cut and several of his ribs had been broken.
9. Archaeologists surmised that he may have been in a battle he fled the scene after being wounded.
10. In spite of his injuries he had begun ascending the mountain.
11. His broken ribs would have made climbing difficult so he must have thought he'd find safety at higher elevations.
12. The clothing, tools, and weapons found with the Iceman were also interesting for very few Neolithic artifacts have survived.