

**Lesson  
4**

# Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

*Teaching*

An **indefinite pronoun** does not refer to a definite, or specific, person, place, thing, or idea.

When used as subjects, some indefinite pronouns are always singular. Others are always plural. Others can be singular or plural depending on how they are used.

Indefinite Pronouns					
<b>Always Singular</b>	another	each	everything	nothing	something
	anybody	either	neither	one	
	anyone	everybody	nobody	somebody	
	anything	everyone	no one	someone	
<b>Always Plural</b>	both	few	many	several	
<b>Singular or Plural</b>	all	any	most	none	some

Singular indefinite pronouns take singular verbs.

Everybody likes good food.

Plural indefinite pronouns take plural verbs.

Many like hot, spicy food.

*All, any, most, none, and some* can be singular or plural. If the pronoun refers to a single person or thing, it takes a singular verb. If it refers to more than one person or thing, it takes a plural verb.

All of the hamburgers were eaten. (more than one hamburger was eaten)

All of the hamburger was eaten. (hamburger is considered a unit)

## Making Indefinite Pronouns and Verbs Agree

In each sentence, underline the indefinite pronoun used as subject and the verb. (If a verb includes more than one word, underline only the first helping verb.) If the verb agrees with the subject, write **Correct** on the line. If it does not agree, write the correct verb form.

**EXAMPLE** Some of the invitations was mailed. *were*

1. All of the guests was eating the birthday cake. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Everyone were singing loudly. \_\_\_\_\_
3. Someone has given me a boardgame. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Most of the favors was bought at the candy store. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Both of my brothers were trying to open my gifts! \_\_\_\_\_
6. Each of the guests have played this game before. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Some of the birthday cake were eaten before the party! \_\_\_\_\_
8. Is any of the presents not opened yet? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Everything was bought at my favorite store. \_\_\_\_\_

**Lesson**  
**4**

# Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

*More Practice*

## A. Making Verbs Agree with Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

In each sentence, underline the indefinite pronoun and the verb. (If a verb includes more than one word, underline only the first helping verb.) If the verb agrees with the subject, write **Correct** on the line. If it does not agree, write the correct verb form.

1. Were any of Joe’s classmates not invited? \_\_\_\_\_
2. All of the invitations has his favorite cartoon character on them. \_\_\_\_\_
3. No one are going to guess the mystery guest. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Everyone wear a party hat. \_\_\_\_\_
5. A few is buying Joe one big gift. \_\_\_\_\_
6. Only some of the presents are practical, useful things. \_\_\_\_\_
7. Many of the balloons pops when they hit the ceiling here. \_\_\_\_\_
8. Most of my time at the party were spent playing two games. \_\_\_\_\_
9. Both require ten people to play them. \_\_\_\_\_
10. One of Joe’s presents were barking at him! \_\_\_\_\_

## B. Using Verbs with Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

Write each numbered sentence on the appropriate line, using the correct present tense form of the verb.

- (1) One of my friends (be) planning a surprise birthday party for Elisa.  
 (2) All of her school friends (know) about the party. (3) Many (have) already bought some decorations. For example, there will be balloons and streamers.  
 (4) Another group (want) to bake her an extravagant cake. (5) Everybody (agree) that this will be the best surprise birthday party ever.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Lesson 4

# Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

## Application

### A. Checking Agreement of Verbs with Indefinite Pronoun Subjects

Proofread this paragraph for errors in subject-verb agreement. Underline any verb that does not agree with the indefinite pronoun used as its subject. On a line below, write the number of each sentence with an error, and rewrite the sentence correctly.

- (1) All of my birthday parties in the past few years has been exciting.
- (2) For example, one were held at the local ice skating rink. (3) Everyone was skating. We noticed our favorite Olympic ice skater there. (4) This year, both of my parents wants me to have another exciting birthday. (5) No one want me to be bored. (6) Instead, everybody expect a hot-air balloon ride this year.

---



---



---



---



---



---

### B. Using Verbs Correctly with Indefinite Pronouns as Subjects

In each sentence beginning below, underline the word that should be used as the simple subject in a sentence. Then supply a complete predicate, using a present-tense verb of your choice, to complete the sentence. Make sure your verb agrees with its subject.

**EXAMPLE** All of the cake *has been eaten*.

- 1. Most of the cars
- 2. All of the gifts
- 3. None of the ice cream
- 4. Both of the twins
- 5. Either of the parents
- 6. All of the guests
- 7. Some of the children
- 8. Most of the backyard