

10. The most important principle in the English language is that the verb follows the number of its noun subject ; that is—

If the noun is singular, the verb must be singular.

If the noun is plural, the verb must be plural.

11. This is expressed in the following

RULE OF AGREEMENT.—A verb must agree with its subject in number.

The horse works.

Here the verb “works” agrees in number with its subject, “horse.” “Works” is singular because “horse” is singular.

The horses work.

Here the verb “work” agrees in number with “horses.” “Work” is plural because “horses” is plural.

Are the following sentences good English ?

1. Some boys *writes* carefully. 2. The splendour *full* on castle walls. 3. The tops of the masts *appears* above the horizon. 4. The houses needs painting.

Write the following sentence :

The brave soldier falls in battle.

Now write the sentence so as to make it say that *more than one* brave soldier falls in battle.

Write this sentence :

The stars begin to twinkle.

Change it so as to make it speak of but *one* star.