

Learning point

Collective Nouns

When we use a collective noun, we can use either a singular or a plural verb. The choice depends on whether we see the group as a whole or as a number of individual members.

We use a singular verb if the group acts as a single unit, and a plural verb when the members of the group act as a number of individuals.

e.g. :- 1) There was quite a large audience.
(The audience seen as a unit)
2) The audience were already clapping their hands.
(The audience seen as a group of people acting individually)

Here is a list of common collective nouns.

army	committee	orchestra
audience	crew	public
board	family	staff
band	jury	team

Activity 3 Vocabulary

Fill in the blanks with the words given in the box.

crew, team, there, has, are

- 1) A cricket consists of eleven players.
- 2) The medical team discussing how they can tackle the dengue problem.
- 3)was a TV crew at the ceremony.
- 4) The ship'swere all saved by the Navy.
- 5) The band only one guitarist.