SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT: EXPRESSIONS OF QUANTITY AND GROUP WORDS REFERRED TO AS A WHOLE

N.B.

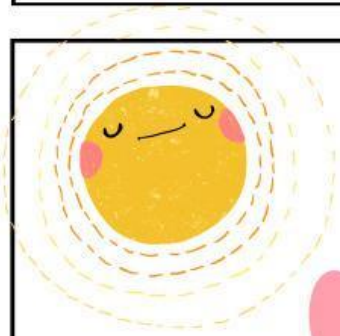
a) Use plural nouns and verbs after the following expressions: *a number of, the majority of, a couple of, a group of, a lot of, the rest of.*
b) Use uncountable nouns and singular verbs after *a lot of, the rest of.*
e.g. *The rest of time was* filled with silence and regret.
c) Use plural nouns and singular verbs after *the number of.*
e.g. The number of students present today *is* 20.
d) Use a singular verb when two nouns are so commonly put together that they are thought of as a single unit.
e.g. *Fish and chips is* a take-away food that originated in the UK.

- **Choose the right verb.**



1. Bacon and eggs (is / are) what I had for breakfast.
2. A number of keyboard shortcuts (is / are) available.
3. The number of students involved (was / were) 250.
4. Guns and Roses (are / is) my favorite rock group.
5. A number of preparatory steps (is / are) required.
6. The majority of courses (is / are) delivered online.
7. Corned beef and cabbage (were / was) his favorite dish.
8. The rest of time (remain/ remains) uncertain.
9. The rest of the pages (was / were) blank.
10. A group of us (is / are) going to the theatre tonight.





- **Respond with *is* or *are*.**

1. The number of people _____ .
2. A number of students _____ .
3. Fish and chips _____ .
4. The majority of people _____ .
5. A couple of books _____ .
6. The rest of my friends _____ .
7. The number of places _____ .
8. Bread and butter _____ .

- **Correct the highlighted verb or write 'correct'.**



1. Chicken and dumplings **is** my favorite holiday dish. _____
2. A number of options **was** considered. _____
3. The number of cell phone users **has** increased rapidly. _____
4. The rest of questions **was** quite easy. _____
5. A couple of reporters **was** taking notes. _____
6. Marmelade and toast **are** not enough for breakfast. _____
7. The majority of people **prefer** TV to radio. _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS