

Subject-verb agreement: Indefinite pronouns

Should the verb that follows an indefinite pronoun be singular or plural?

Well, it depends! Some **indefinite pronouns** are always singular and therefore take a singular verb, while others are always plural and therefore take a plural verb. But some can be either singular or plural depending on the context. How confusing!

See if you can choose the verb form that goes with the indefinite pronouns in the sentences below.

1. Both of the German shepherds belonging to that family (*has/have*) always been good watchdogs.
2. Should we go to the early show or late evening show? Either (*suits/suit*) me.
3. Some of the families in the neighborhood (*is/are*) striving to adopt a zero-waste lifestyle.
4. After the conference, several of us (*plans/plan*) to stay in town for a few days to do some sightseeing.
5. Nobody (*was/were*) expecting the bride and groom to perform a choreographed hip hop routine for their first dance together.
6. More of my joy in giving parties (*comes/come*) from the party planning and preparation than from the party itself!
7. Ima has had many jobs, but few (*has/have*) been as rewarding as her job as a community service worker.
8. Each of the recipes in this cookbook (*reminds/remind*) me of a special time with my grandmother.
9. All of the furnishings chosen by the interior decorator (*was/were*) the perfect style for the house's modern design.
10. One of Noah's short stories (*is/are*) being considered for a collection of short stories by up-and-coming Canadian authors.