Unit 41

## Agreement between subject and verb 2

	7.8.23	NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.
A	With any of, each of, either of, neither of, or none of and a plural noun / pronoun we can use a singular or plural verb. (We use a singular verb for careful written English.)	<ul> <li>I don't think any of them knows (or know) where the money is hidden.</li> <li>Neither of the French athletes has (or have) won this year.</li> </ul>
	With a / the majority of, a number of, a lot of, plenty of, all (of), or some (of) and a plural noun / pronoun we use a plural verb. (We use a singular verb with the number of.)	<ul> <li>A number of refugees have been turned back at the border.</li> <li>The number of books in the library has risen to over five million.</li> </ul>
	After one of and a plural noun / pronoun we use a singular verb. However, after one of + plural noun / pronoun + who we can often use either a singular or plural verb. (A plural verb is more grammatical.)	<ul> <li>One of the reasons I took the job was that I could work from home.</li> <li>He's one of those teachers who insist / insists on pupils sitting silently in class.</li> </ul>
	With any of, none of, the majority of, a lot of, plenty of, all (of), some (of) and an uncountable noun we use a singular verb.	<ul> <li>All the furniture was destroyed in the fire.</li> <li>None of the equipment appears to be damaged.</li> </ul>
	With <b>every</b> or <b>each</b> and a <b>singular noun</b> or <b>coordinated noun</b> (x and y) we use a singular verb. (For <b>each of</b> , see above.)	<ul> <li>Every room looks over the harbour.</li> <li>Every boy and girl takes part in the activity.</li> <li>Each child has drawn a picture. but</li> <li>The children have each drawn a picture.</li> </ul>
ļ	With everyone, everybody, everything (and similar words beginning any-, some- and no-) we use a singular verb.	Practically <b>everyone</b> thinks that Phil should be given the job.
В	When a subject has two or more items joined by an Ingrid and Tobias are moving back to Aust However, phrases connected by and can also be formaking up a single item:  The lorry, its cargo and passengers weight	ralia. llowed by singular verbs if we think of them as
C	The President or his representatives are If the last item is singular and previous item plural,	ugh a plural verb is sometimes used in informal place to meet. (or are in informal English) to attend the meeting.
D	In there + be / have (see Unit 95) we use a singular and a plural form with plural nouns. However, in inform of be or have (= There's) with plural nouns:  Over the last few years there have been more than the been more than the been of the been lots of good films on lately. (compared to the been lots of good films on lately.)	r verb form with singular and uncountable nouns formal speech we often use a shortened singular any improvements in car safety.

## **Exercises**

	his early	paintings	my childr	ren- Dr Jo	nes's acquain	tances	the food
(ii)	remain	-remember	- taste	know			
1 a	a I'd be surprised if any of my children remember / remembers my birthday.						
	b It's unlikely that any of It seems that he destr						
	most of the	work he prod	luced during	g the 1930s.			
C				mmmannininininininin	pa	rticularly	good. In fact, th
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(ii)		alescos	LECTURE DW	20192222			
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			to rise di	ramatically ir	the next five	years.	
							none can cure i
c	It is estimat	ed that the n	umber of		0	f the floo	ding
181					St.	1755	
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