

## ACTIVITY 1

Choose the correct verb to agree with its subject and complete the sentence.

**Question 1:** There \_\_\_\_\_ several students absent from class today.

**Answer:**  
a. is  
b. are  
c. was

**Question 2:** Neither \_\_\_\_\_ eligible to apply for the job.

**Answer:**  
a. were  
b. are  
c. is

**Question 3:** The study found that the hypotheses \_\_\_\_\_ incorrect.

**Answer:**  
a. are  
b. was  
c. were

**Question 4:** Neither the football nor the tennis matches \_\_\_\_\_ interesting.

**Answer:**  
a. were  
b. was  
c. is

**Question 5:** The kookaburra is an Australian bird which \_\_\_\_\_ on snakes.

**Answer:**  
a. are preying  
b. preys  
c. prey



**Question 6:** The Olympic swimming team \_\_\_\_\_ elected a fortnight ago.

**Answer:**  
a. had  
b. was  
c. were

**Question 7:** None of the questions \_\_\_\_\_ to the exam.

**Answer:**  
a. relate  
b. relates  
c. are relating

**Question 8:** Knowing a subject well \_\_\_\_\_ a lot of study.

**Answer:**  
a. require  
b. are requiring  
c. requires

**Question 9:** The percentage of male nurses entering the profession \_\_\_\_\_ increased.

**Answer:**  
a. are  
b. has  
c. have

**Question 10:** Newspapers and magazines \_\_\_\_\_ students with a good source of reading material.

**Answer:**  
a. provide  
b. provides  
c. is providing

## ACTIVITY 2

Choose the subject that agrees with the verb to complete the following sentences. There may be some sentences where two choices are correct.

**Question 1:** \_\_\_\_\_ have voted for approval.

- Answer:**
- a. Australia, as well as China,
  - b. The Australian companies
  - c. The Australian

**Question 2:** \_\_\_\_\_ were reduced during the takeover.

- Answer:**
- a. None of the company's profits
  - b. None of the company's wealth
  - c. None of the company's income

**Question 3:** \_\_\_\_\_ are grown in Indonesia.

- Answer:**
- a. Many varieties of tea
  - b. Many varieties of spring flowers
  - c. Many variety of vegetable

**Question 4:** \_\_\_\_\_ is accurate in assessing the problem.

- Answer:**
- a. Either the scientists or the astronomer
  - b. Either the scientist or the astronomers
  - c. Either the scientists or a astronomer

**Question 5:** \_\_\_\_\_ speak Mandarin fluently.

- Answer:**
- a. Everybody
  - b. Both
  - c. Someone



**Question 6:** \_\_\_\_\_ is required for enrolment.

- Answer:**
- a. A passport or offer letter
  - b. A passport
  - c. The passports

**Question 7:** There are \_\_\_\_\_

- Answer:**
- a. several students who failed the test.
  - b. a foreign student who failed the test.
  - c. some student who failed the test.

**Question 8:** \_\_\_\_\_ were quite serious.

- Answer:**
- a. The problems that the student faced
  - b. The problem that the students faced
  - c. A problem that a student faced

**Question 9:** \_\_\_\_\_ is too much for that book.

- Answer:**
- a. Twenty-five dollars
  - b. One dollar
  - c. Five dollar

**Question 10:** \_\_\_\_\_ works for the *Time* magazine.

- Answer:**
- a. The journalist who wants to interview the directors
  - b. The journalists who want to interview the director
  - c. The journalist which want to interview the director

## ACTIVITY 3

Decide how the final 's' in the 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular (simple present tense) or the plural noun is pronounced in the following sentences.

1. He **starts** his day by listening to the radio every morning.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/
  
2. A special seminar will be scheduled for all the **vegetarians** in the group.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/ vegetarians
  
3. South America's greatest river, the Amazon, **flows** into the Atlantic Ocean.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/
  
4. The full-time English language preparation course **finishes** at the end of the month.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/
  
5. The jazz group will be holding a number of free **concerts** in the park.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/
  
6. The **houses** in that village were built in the last century.
  - a. /lz/
  - b. /s/
  - c. /z/



7. The nearest school is ten **kilometres** from here.
- /lz/
  - /s/
  - /z/
8. Because Mary **speaks** Mandarin well, she was able to assist the judge.
- /lz/
  - /s/
  - /z/
9. **Buses** will be transporting the team to the stadium for their football match.
- /lz/
  - /s/
  - /z/
10. The plane **leaves** for Jakarta early in the morning.
- /lz/
  - /s/
  - /z/

## ANSWERS ACTIVITY 1

1. There **are** several students absent from class today.
2. Neither **is** eligible to apply for the job.
3. The study found that the hypotheses **were** incorrect.
4. Neither the football nor the tennis matches **were** interesting.
5. The kookaburra is an Australian bird, which **preys** on snakes.
6. The Olympic swimming team **was/were** elected a fortnight ago.  
(both are acceptable – see rule 12)
7. None of the questions **relate** to the exam.
8. Knowing a subject well **requires** a lot of study.
9. The percentage of male nurses entering the profession **has** increased.
10. Newspapers and magazines **provide** students with a good source of reading material.

## ANSWERS ACTIVITY 2

Question 1: \_\_\_\_\_ have voted for approval.

Answer: **b. The Australian companies**

Question 2: \_\_\_\_\_ were reduced during the takeover.

Answer: **a. None of the company's profits**

Question 3: \_\_\_\_\_ are grown in Indonesia.

Answer: **a. Many varieties of tea / b. Many varieties of spring flowers**

Question 4: \_\_\_\_\_ is accurate in assessing the problem.

Answer: **a. Either the scientists or the astronomer**

Question 5: \_\_\_\_\_ speak Mandarin fluently.

Answer: **b. Both**

Question 6: \_\_\_\_\_ is required for enrolment.

Answer: **a. A passport or offer letter / b. A passport**

Question 7: There are \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: **a. several students who failed the test.**

Question 8: \_\_\_\_\_ were quite serious.

Answer: **a. The problems that the student faced**

Question 9: \_\_\_\_\_ is too much for that book.

Answer: **a. Twenty-five dollars / b. One dollar**

Question 10: \_\_\_\_\_ works for the *Time* magazine.

Answer: **a. The journalist who wants to interview the directors**

## ANSWERS ACTIVITY 3

1. He starts his day by listening to the radio every morning.  
**b. /s/ starts**
2. A special seminar will be scheduled for all the vegetarians in the group.  
**c. /z/ vegetarians**
3. South America's greatest river, the Amazon, flows into the Atlantic Ocean.  
**c. /z/ flows**
4. The full-time IELTS preparation course finishes at the end of the month.  
**a. /lz/ finishes**
5. The jazz group will be holding a number of free concerts in the park.  
**b. /s/ concerts**
6. The houses in that village were built in the last century.  
**a. /lz/ houses**
7. The nearest school is ten kilometres from here.  
**c. /z/ kilometres**
8. Because Mary speaks Mandarin well, she was able to assist the judge.  
**b. /s/ speaks**
9. Buses will be transporting the team to the stadium for their football match.  
**a. /lz/ buses**
10. The plane leaves for Jakarta early in the morning.  
**c. /z/ leaves**