Subject-Verb Agreement Worksheet I

Subjects and verbs must agree in number. If the subject is singular (meaning one), the verb must end in –s. If the subject is plural (meaning more than one), the verb should not end in –s.

Exercise One: In each sentence below, circle the verb that correctly completes each sentence.

1. A black cat (bring, brings) bad luck, according to an old superstition.
2. Young children often (protest, protests) when bedtime (roll, rolls) around.
3. My thoughts often (become, becomes) confused when I sit down to write an essay.
4. When it is hot and humid, my clothes (stick, sticks) to me.
5. A person (need, needs) to set goals if he or she wants to succeed.
6. The damages (were, was) not serious, but the cost of repairs was over a thousand dollars.
7. My head (feel, feels) as if it is about to burst.
8. Joseph (have, has) two sisters, one brother, and several pets.
9. When a tree (fall, falls) in a forest and no one is present, does it make a sound?
10. The food containers (is, are) stacked in the lower cabinet.
11. Mothers (like, likes) to see their children grow into independent adults.
12. My brother (work, works) at the Baptist Hospital as a physical therapist.
13. The little girl (have, has) a beautiful smile, even though her two front teeth (are, is) missing.
14. A kitten (open, opens) its eyes when it is about ten days old.
15. Some boys (pitch, pitches) with one hand and (bat, bats) with another.

This handout is adapted from the Hinds Community College Writing Center Website. Only the format has been changed.