

## Spelling Worksheet—11: Lesson XXXV and XXXVI

Look at the following sentences. What do you notice about the nouns and verbs?

*Mary plays.      The girls play*

*Father reads.      The students read.*

*She was in the garden.      They were happy together.*

When the noun is singular the verb has the letter S at the end. When the noun is plural the verb does not have an S. This is called **subject-verb agreement**. Did you notice that a singular verb has an added -S but a singular noun does not?

Some verbs are irregular. The verb TO BE is one of them. This verb includes words like *am, are* and *is* or *was* and *were*. The verbs *is* and *was* are to be used with a singular noun and *are* and *were* should be used with plural nouns.

Look at the following sentences. Choose which form of the verb should be used for the subject.

*Little Mary \_\_\_\_\_ a great favorite with her father. (was or were)*

*One day they \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden. (was or were)*

*When a child \_\_\_\_\_ a present, she should keep it in good order.  
(receives or receive)*

## Subject Verb Agreement for Tense

There are two things we need to look at for subject verb agreement. The first one is number (this is what we practiced in the sentences above). The second one is tense. If one verb in a sentence is in the present tense, all verbs in the sentence must be in present tense. The same is true for past tense. If one verb in a sentence is in past tense, all verbs in that sentence must be in past tense.

Look at the following sentence. Notice how both verbs in the sentence are in past tense.

*He **turned** from her and **went** into another part of the garden.*

Complete the sentences below with the correct verb form.

*She hung her head and \_\_\_\_\_ bitterly. (weep or wept)*

*After she arranged them on the shelf, she \_\_\_\_\_ at them with great pleasure (look or looked)*

*When she put her books in order, she \_\_\_\_\_ to herself. (thinks or thought)*