

CRIME SCENE

Parts of Speech



**SUBJECT-VERB
AGREEMENT**



CSI LANGUAGE

Subject-Verb Agreement

IDEAL UNIT: Subject-Verb Agreement	TIME RANGE: 30-45 Minutes	SUPPLIES: Pencil & Paper
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TOPICS OF FOCUS:

- Recognizing and correcting subject-verb agreement across a range of tenses (past, present) with regular and irregular verbs.
- Identifying indefinite pronouns as singular or plural through subject-verb agreement
- Recognizing and explaining subject-verb agreement in a range of sentences, including: with intervening phrases; with compound subjects; with collective nouns; where quantities are used; with quantities of time; using fractions; and with singular nouns ending in s.

COMMON CORE ALIGNMENT:

L.3.1.D	Form and use regular and irregular verbs.
L.3.1.E	Form and use the simple verb tenses.
L.3.1.F	Ensure subject-verb and pronoun-antecedent agreement.
L.4.1.B	Form and use the progressive verb tenses.
L.5.1.B	Form and use the perfect verb tenses.
L.3.1, L.4.1, L.5.1, L.6.1, L.7.1	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking.

General Procedures

*A.) As an optional hook, you can provide or read students the letter from Professor Weiss. These are relatively the same for each CSI activity and introduce the criminal and world region it takes place.

B.) Provide groups (ideally 2-3), the possible suspects, 6 crime scene puzzles and a worksheet to use to record their findings. You may choose to laminate the criminals or crime scenes for easier reuse. They also work well printed as a packet.

C.) Students will work to solve the crime. A vandal has gone and tried to destroy language as we know it. Generally, it takes between 30-45 minutes to complete. You can drop hints or provide assistance to help groups that are behind the pace. There are some situations that require students to identify errors and others that check understanding of the grammar rules. Previewing which crime scenes might be the most challenging will help you be prepared to help small groups or the whole class.

The errors are designed to test on all the above topics of focus, scattered throughout the crime scenes.

D.) At the end of each scene, students will receive a clue that will substitute into the “Cryptic Text Message”. This provides an element of self-checking because if the Cryptic Text does not lead to a criminal, they know they need to recheck their work. In the end, students will determine which suspect should be arrested. *The gender, race and ethnicity of the guilty “suspect” are intentionally varied across the entire CSI series.*

*E.) There is an emphasis on “evidence” since this is an investigation. This may mean circling the errors and even showing the appropriate corrections. You may like for students to create a portfolio of evidence proving that they have arrested the right person and will demonstrate their understanding of their historical content present in the problem.

*F.) Some teachers enjoy having their students present and defend their evidence to the class in a brief oral presentation.

*Optional Extensions

THE EVIDENCE



INVESTIGATOR: _____

1.	CLUE
2.	CLUE
3.	CLUE
4.	CLUE
5.	CLUE
6.	CLUE
CRYPTIC TEXT MESSAGE	
SUSPECT	

CSI: Subject-Verb Agreement



Detectives,

As you know we are after a group of international evil geniuses, the Grammanators. Our evidence indicates they plan to build a world conquering device – to rewrite all of history. It seems one of the anonymous henchmen, M. Désaccord, has committed a string of robberies all over France. We fear this is another step in the Grammanators’ master plan.

The Grammanators use codes to communicate with each other. To claim their work, they send copies of their altered text to their teammates. When complete, they send a cryptic text message to their teammates to boast. The text message when unscrambled correctly will reveal M. Désaccord’s secret passcode. So far there are six suspects that police have questioned.

It is hoped that someone with a strong understanding of grammar rules can use their knowledge to check the vandalism at the crime scenes.

Your job is to bring M. Désaccord to justice and save the world’s grammar skills. You need to be prepared to state your case and demonstrate your understanding of adjectives and adverbs across the following topics about France that M. Désaccord is known to use in the notes:

- Basic Information
- French Inventions
- Food
- Destinations
- Artists
- The Eiffel Tower



In your investigation, be sure to explain all of your thoughts. We need to have clear evidence that supports your conclusions. This is not a time to be sloppy. The slightest illegible footnote could result in a not guilty verdict.







Good luck to you, gumshoe,
Professor Weiss



THE SUSPECTS

Who is M. Désaccord?



<p>NAME Kaitlin</p> <p>OCCUPATION Organic Grocer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Food</p> 	<p>NAME Arnold</p> <p>OCCUPATION Principal</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Career</p> 
<p>NAME Rishi</p> <p>OCCUPATION App Developer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Leisure</p> 	<p>NAME Dawne</p> <p>OCCUPATION Archivist</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Place</p> 
<p>NAME Nikki</p> <p>OCCUPATION Veterinarian</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Animal</p> 	<p>NAME Ricardo</p> <p>OCCUPATION Engineer</p> <p>PREFERRED PASSCODE CATEGORY Device</p> 



Scene #1 France's Wikipedia Page



Readers were astonished to find that M. Désaccord has vandalized information about France on the internet. The country's web developers are concerned M. Désaccord hacked a database.

Ooh la la, c'est moi! Watch out - I'm going to bring all sentences around the world into disgreement. I'm starting at home in beautiful France. But you might be next!

The sentences below have verbs missing. Use the word bank to identify which verb from each row should be used in the matching sentence.

The leftover words reveal the first clue.

France, officially _____ as the French Republic, is located in Western Europe.

Over 60 million people _____ in the nearly 250,000 square miles that _____ up France. They _____ the fifth largest economy in the world.

France, along with five other countries, _____ one of five permanent members of the UN Security Council. France _____ the largest collection of nuclear weapons in the EU.



WORD BANK

Cross out the words in the bank that should be added into the sentences.

is = 3	made = 2	lives = 4	makes = 0
am = 5	having = 1	have = 3	called = 3
own = 4	live = 8	known = 1	living = 6
make = 0	owns = 9	owning = 3	knows = 2

Add the numbers next to the words left in the bank.
Identify the letter that your total points to.

18 ↓ S	30 ↓ A	34 ↓ L	37 ↓ U	43 ↓ T
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Scene #2 Musée des Arts et Métiers -- Paris, France



M. Désaccord broke into the museum dedicated to France's scientific inventions. While inside, it seems M. Désaccord signed an autograph on an enormous etch-a-sketch.



While you are busy, I will start pedalling my new grammar rules.
'Can' you keep up?

FRENCH INVENTIONS

M. Désaccord has been switching around some verbs!
In which sentence do all the verbs agree with their subject?



The stethoscope was invented by René Laennec in 1816. Almost everyone today have had a stethoscope used on them at some point.



P



The Etch A Sketch, along with the Rubik's Cube and the yo-yo, are one of the most recognizable retro toys in the world. The Etch A Sketch was invented in France in the 1950's.



A



Braille was invented by Louis Braille in 1829. Blind people, like Louis Braille himself, was able to read by touching a series of raised bumps.



S



Without a doubt, this is one of the greatest French inventions of all time. It is a process of killing bacteria in food and drink. The process is used particularly for milk.



T



The first bicycles were created in Germany in 1817. However, Pierre Michaux and Pierre Lallement was responsible for the addition of pedals to the bike.



E,U



During the Napoleonic Wars, the French army were in need of food that could be preserved. A French man came up with a way of keeping food sealed in glass jars.



R

Scene #3 Le Cordon Bleu -- Paris, France



Last night, M. Désaccord snuck into one of France’s most prestigious cooking schools. The restrooms had been used – perhaps M. Désaccord had something that didn’t agree with them.



I’ve been cooking up a storm, a grammar storm. And it’s blowing into your town next! Bon appetit!

FRENCH CUISINE

Traditional French delicacies have been devoured and the crumbs scattered. Try to figure out which type of pronoun is underlined in each sentence by the subject-verb agreement. List the sentence number under the pronoun type in the table. *Which one pronoun type has the most sentences listed?*

Indefinite Singular Pronoun	Indefinite Plural Pronoun	Definite Pronoun

WHAT TO EAT

#1	If <u>anybody</u> thinks that <i>Ratatouille</i> is just a film about a rat, think again! It’s also a delicious stewed vegetable dish.
#2	When <u>you</u> visit the Alps Mountains, you’re sure to see a fondue at some point. It’s a big bowl of hot melted cheese to dip bread into – gooey, cheesy goodness!
#3	A salad nicoise is a tuna salad containing olives and hard-boiled eggs. <u>Nothing</u> compares to eating one overlooking the Mediteranean Sea in the city of Nice.
#4	<u>Both</u> the croque monsieur and its sister dish the croque madame are fine lunchtime snacks. It’s essentially a toasted cheese sandwich with a twist.
#5	Baguettes are long, thin loaves of French bread. <u>They</u> are prepared in bakeries all over France and on sale first thing every morning.
#6	Crepes are a very thin form of pancake. <u>Most</u> crepes are served sweet, but they can also be served with savory ingredients and are then called galettes.
#7	<u>Few</u> people can say they haven’t heard of the famous coq au vin dish. It is a stew with chicken, wine, bacon and mushrooms.
#8	<u>Many</u> versions of the dish cassoulet exist. They all include beans, sausages and other meat in a sort of casserole.

Which pronoun type has the most sentences?

Indefinite Singular ↓ P, A	Indefinite Plural ↓ R, I	Definite ↓ S
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M. Désaccord has gone to another website to make more mistakes. While M. Désaccord was on the net, Yelp believes thousands of coupon codes were stolen.

My grammar destruction campaign continues through some of the country's most famous sites! Bon voyage!

YELP REVIEWS OF FRENCH DESTINATIONS

Verbs were altered in some of the reviews. Which reviews have NO errors in subject-verb agreement?

Disneyland Paris		Two days were not long enough to see everything this incredible park has to offer! My three children had the time of their lives!
The Alps		We go to the Alps every winter for a week. About two thirds of the week are spent skiing like our lives depend on it. The other third we spend eating our weight in bread and cheese!
Cote d' Azur		It don't get much better than the beautiful sparking water of the Cote d'Azur. In one day you can visit the glamorous beach resorts of Saint-Tropez and Cannes and end the day in the late night party town of Monaco.
Mont-Saint-Michel		The tiny island of Mont Saint-Michel gets cut off by each high tide. It really is one of the most spectacular sights in all of France.
Dordogne		17 miles are a long way to walk. But put yourself in a canoe with the river pushing you along and it makes an incredible day trip down the Dordogne River. What a buzz!
Corsica		Corsica is to France as Hawaii is to the United States. A beautiful holiday island, located off the coast of mainland France, it is a real tourist favorite, and you can see why.

How many of the Yelp reviews have NO errors with subject-verb agreement?

0 ↓ D	1 ↓ I	2 ↓ S, C	3 ↓ O, V	4 ↓ E, R
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Scene #5 Louvre Museum -- Paris, France



M. Désaccord snuck into one of the most famous museums in the world. Rumor has it that a moustache was found painted on the *Mona Lisa*.



I don't think much of all this art stuff. I just don't agree with it at all. In fact, I don't agree with anything much at the moment. Ah, c'est la vie!

FRENCH ARTISTS

Match the sentences about famous French artists with the subject-verb agreement rule they show. One of the artists is missing its explanation.



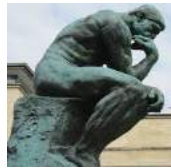
Matisse: Henri Matisse, along with Pablo Picasso and Marcel Duchamp, **is** considered one of the most influential figures of modern art.



Monet: Water Lilies **is** a series of around 250 paintings by the Impressionist artist Claude Monet.



Cézanne: Paul Cézanne was an inspirational painter. Picasso and Matisse **are** said to have called him "the father of us all."



Rodin: A lot of Auguste Rodin's work **was** not praised in his time. However, his statue The Thinker has since become one of the most famous statues ever.



Toulouse-Lautrec: The social politics of late-night Paris **was** what inspired many of Henri De Toulouse-Lautrec's paintings.



Renoir: Pierre-Auguste Renoir painted some of the most beautiful pictures of the 19th century. His entire family **had been** involved in the arts too.

Singular nouns that end with an s take singular verb forms

In a sentence with a compound subject, the verb will be plural.

When there is a singular subject, you can ignore any intervening phrases and use a singular verb.

When a collective noun is used in a sentence, it takes the singular verb form.

Words expressing quantity can be singular or plural, depending on the noun they refer to.

Which artist's explanation has been deleted?

Matisse ↓ L	Monet ↓ O	Cézanne ↓ U	Rodin ↓ V	Henri T-L ↓ R	Renoir ↓ E
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Scene #6 The Eiffel Tower -- Paris, France



Early this morning, M. Désaccord took a longer walk than expected along the Great Wall. Locals noticed whole sections were now leading in the wrong direction.



I'm almost all finished with my French destruction. It's time for me to say au revoir!

THE EIFFEL TOWER

How many section(s) have 5 or more errors in subject-verb agreement?

- i. The Eiffel Tower was originally built for the 1889 World's Fair in Paris. Maurice Koechlin and Emile Nouguier is credited with the design. These engineers showed it to Gustave Eiffel, who were the owner of a building company. Eiffel didn't like their design at first, but he ended up paying them for it. About 300 workers started building the tower in January 1887. The tower was opened to the public on May 6, 1889.
- ii. The Eiffel Tower stand 1,063 feet tall, which make it the tallest structure in Paris. Each side of its square base measure 410 feet long. When it was built, it was the tallest structure in the world. It stayed the tallest for 41 years until 1930. There is over 600 steps leading to the second level. Most people takes an elevator to the top level.
- iii. Most visitors to the Eiffel Tower visits the first three levels of the tower. The first two levels contains restaurants and the first level also feature an ice rink in the winter. Everybody have the choice of taking the stairs or the elevator to the different levels. About 250 million people has visited the tower since it was built. About seven million people visits the landmark each year. Around 25,000 people goes to enter the Eiffel Tower every day. It is the most visited monument in the world that people pays to visit.
- iv. The Eiffel Tower remain the most iconic structure in France. Many views it as one of the most well-known landmarks in the world. 30 copies of it exists in different countries. The most famous of these copies are the one at the Paris hotel in Las Vegas. The Eiffel Tower has been shown in many movies and TV shows. It don't ever seem to become less popular and remains one of the most popular tourist sites in the world.

How many of the sections contain 5 or more errors?

0 ↓ B	4 ↓ O	3 ↓ N,S	2 ↓ O,I	1 ↓ R
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CRYPTIC TEXT MESSAGE

Unscramble if you have the knowledge.

I'll be gone before breakfast!

M. Désaccord

CSI: LANGUAGE

Subject-Verb Agreement

Rubric



Skills & Understandings	Exemplary	Proficient	Developing
I can choose verbs correctly for a given subject.			
I can recognize and correct errors in subject-verb agreement.			
I can classify pronouns as definite, indefinite singular, or indefinite plural.			
I understand rules on subject-verb agreement relating to compound subjects, intervening phrases, collective nouns, quantities, and singular nouns ending in s.			

COMMENTS: