#### TUTORIAL EXERCISES

**Subject Verb Agreement** 

#### **EXERCISE 1.1**

### READ THE PASSAGE AND CORRECT ANY SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT ERRORS.

(1) My family enjoy scuba-diving, so nearly every school vacation, we go on a diving trip. (2) We have noticed that there is three completely different kinds of divers. (3) We call them the "nature lovers", the "pool guys", and the "seals". (4) The people whom we call "nature lovers" enjoy getting in the water for a short swim to look at the rocks, seaweed and underwater creatures, which is swimming around. (5) The "pool guys", who wear the latest hi-tech equipment, comes for a short while to have a swim and test how good their equipments are. (6) The "seals", who wear only their swimsuits, dive in the water and disappear for what seem like hours. (7) Each of the divers enjoy the ocean in a different way.

### EXERCISE 1.2 CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION:

- 1. The three friends, Max included, was supposed to meet for dinner later that night.
- A) was supposed to meet
- B) was supposed to have met
- C) were supposed to be meeting
- D) were supposed to meet
- E) they were supposed to be meeting
- 2. The number of students chosen for the prestigious medical internship have more than doubled in the past fifteen years.
- A) have more than doubled
- B) have been more than doubling
- o C) has more than doubled
- D) has been more than doubling
- E) has doubled even more

### 3. Following intense debate, the faculty has approved the measure to increase class size by 15% over the next four years.

- A) the faculty has approved the measure to increase
- B) the faculty has approved the measure and increased
- C) the faculty have approved the measure to increase
- D) the faculty have given their approval to the measure to increase
- E) the faculty, having approved the measure to increase

### 4. Without proper funding and a better campaign strategy, there is no chances that our candidate will be elected to office.

- A) there is no chances that
- B) there can be no chance for
- C) there is no chance that
- D) there are no chances for
- E) there will be no chances for

### 5. Some members of the tribe has been protesting the recent passage of hunting laws applying to indigenous populations.

- A) members of the tribe has been protesting
- B) members of the tribe have been protesting
- C) tribe members has been protesting
- o D) tribe members will have been protesting
- E) members of the tribe, having protested

- 6. After she attended the career fair, many more resources were at Philippa's disposal, including job boards, new contacts, and numerous books and pamphlets to help her improve her resume and cover letter.
- A) many more resources were at Philippa's disposal
- B) at Philippa's disposal were many more resources
- C) there were many more resources at Philippa's disposal
- D) Philippa, at her disposal, had many more resources E) Philippa had many more resources at her disposal

#### 7. The results of the study clearly indicates a reduction in the number of useable pounds that can be salvaged from an average ton of recyclable goods.

- A) indicates a reduction
- B) indicates that a reduction
- C) indicating a reducing
- D) indicate a reducing
- E) indicate a reduction

#### 8. A number of colorful glass vases were displayed in the store window.

- A) were displayed in the store window
- B) was displaying in the store window
- C) was displayed in the store window
- D) displayed in the store window
- E) was being displayed in the store window

#### 9. Neither of our school's students nominated for the national spelling bee were able to win the competition.

- A) Neither of our school's students nominated for the national spelling bee were
- B) Neither of our school's students nominated for the national spelling bee was
- C) Neither of the students from our school nominated for the national spelling bee were
- D) Neither of the students nominated for the national spelling bee from our school were
- E) Neither one of our school's students who was nominated for the national spelling bee was

#### 10. Everybody at the party love the chocolate cake Shelley made.

- A) Everybody at the party love the chocolate cake Shelley made.
- B) Everybody at the party loving the chocolate cake Shelley made.
- C) Everybody at the party loves the chocolate cake Shelley made.
- D) Everybody love the chocolate cake Shelley made at the party.
- E) Everybody loves the chocolate cake Shelley made at the party.

#### 11. Next to me on the bench sits two older women.

- A) on the bench sits two older women
- B) on the bench sit two older women
- C) two older women sitting on the bench
- D) sit on the bench two older women
- E) two older women sits on the bench

### 12. The public are receiving the new mayor well though she was mostly unheard of prior to the election.

- A) The public are receiving the new mayor well though she was
- B) The public receive the new mayor well though she was
- C) The public is receiving the new mayor well though she was
- D) The public is receiving the new mayor well though she is
- E) The public are receiving the new mayor well though she is

### 13. We don't yet know whom it will be, but eventually either my brother or I are going to take over the family business.

- A) either my brother or I are going to take over the family business
- B) either my brother nor I are going to take over the family business
- C) either my brother or I will be going to take over the family business
- D) either my brother or I taking over the family business
- E) either my brother or I am going to take over the family business

### 14. The president of Costa Rica, along with two vice presidents, are elected for a four-year term by the people.

- A) are elected for a four-year term by the people
- B) are elected, by the people, for a four-year term
- C) is elected for a four-year term by the people
- D) are elected for four-year terms by the people
- E) is elected for four-year terms by the people

- 15. The Egyptian Museum in Cairo, which contains 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, are home to one of the most impressive collections of ancient Egyptian artifacts.
- A) which contains 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, are home to
- B) which contain 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, are home to
- C) containing 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, are home to
- D) which is containing 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, are home to
- E) which contains 120,000 objects from prehistoric times through the Greco-Roman period, is home to

#### EXERCISE 1.3

QUESTIONS ON SPOTTING ERROR, FROM THE BELOW A, B, C, OR D, ONE OF THE OPTIONS IS THE ANSWER WHICH NEEDED TO BE IMPROVED OR CORRECTED. SO SPOT THE ERROR AND MARK THAT OPTION AS YOUR ANSWER.

- 1. (a) Neither of them/ (b) are going to attend/ (c) the party on 10th October./ (d) No Error
- 2. (a) He walked five miles which are really a great distance/ (b) for a man like him who is not only old but also ill./ (d) No error
- 3. (a) Either my colleague/ (b) or a peon are coming home/ (c) with the material today./(d) No error
- 4. (a) The rise and fall/ (b) of the tide are due/ (c) to lunar influence./ (d) No error

- 5. (a) Many a man/ (b) have succumbed/ (c) to this temptation./ (d) No error
- 6. (a) The introduction of tea, coffee/ (b) and such other beverages/ (c) have not been without some effect./ (d) No error
- 7. (a)The newer type of automatic machines/ (b) wash/ (c) clothes faster./ (d) No error
- 8. (a) Each of the students in the computer class/ (b) has to type/ (c) their own research paper this semester./ (d) No error
- 9. (a) Every one of the films/ (b) you suggested/ (c) are not worth seeing./ (d) No error
- 10. (a) The Secretary and Principal of the college/ (b) are attending/ (c) the District Development Council Meeting at the Town Hall/ (d) No error

#### EXERCISE 1.4

EDIT THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES TO ELIMINATE PROBLEMS WITH SUBJECT-VERB AGREEMENT AND WRITE THE EDITED SENTENCE. IF A SENTENCE IS CORRECT, WRITE "

- 1. One of the main reasons for elephant poaching are the profits received from selling the ivory tusks.
- 2. Not until my interview with Dr. Chang were other possibilities opened to me.
- 3. Batik cloth from Bali, blue and white ceramics from Cambodia, and a bocce ball from Turin has made Hannah's room the talk of the dorm.
- 4. The board of directors, ignoring the wishes of the neighborhood, has voted to allow further development.

- 5. Measles is a contagious childhood disease.
- 6. The presence of certain bacteria in our bodies are one of the factors that determines our overall health.
- 7. Leah is the only one of the many applicants who has the ability to step into this job.
- 8. Neither the explorer nor his companions was ever seen again.

# EXERCISE 1.5 UNDERLINE THE CORRECT FORM OF THE VERB TENSE AND INDICATE THE RULE THAT DETERMINES THE CORRECT ANSWER.

- 1. 1.My favourite history professor, as well as some of his administrative staff, were asked to resign because fewer students were taking history courses than ever before.
- 2. James is a proactive police officer, so although the local rebellious teenagers are annoyed by his strict nature, the overall safety of the town have improved drastically since he was hired.
- 3. Shana, Joe, and Marcel was incredible in each of their performances and the audience rewarded them through cheers and applause.
- 4. The salami and chorizo in the refrigerator is very salty, so you may want to serve some water with it so that your guests will be comfortable.

- 5. The closet of shoes are hard to open; the door has swollen due to the massive amount of rain this spring.
- 6. The trail of ants, which crossed the entire kitchen floor and disappeared into the cabinet, were new arrivals this morning.
- 7. Many students have trouble learning the order of operations in math, which have led to the creation of many mnemonic devices to help them remember it.
- 8. A spread, such as honey or syrup, are often used to sweeten pancakes and give them more flavour.
- 9. Each of us are bringing a small gift that cost less than \$10 for another person.
- 10. Mike, like many other students, have been trying to decide on the best gift to buy.

### CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION FOR THE UNDERLINED PART.

- Q1. Before the Civil War, Harriet Tubman, along with other former slaves and white abolitionists, helped create what had become known as the Underground Railroad, and were responsible for leading hundreds, if not thousands, of slaves to freedom.
- A. had become known as the Underground Railroad, and were
- B. would become known as the Underground Railroad, and were
- o C. had become known as the Underground Railroad, and was
- D. has been becoming known as the Underground Railroad, and was
- E. would become known as the Underground Railroad, and was
- Q2. Mathematical analysis of humpback whale sounds provide evidence that animals other than humans use a hierarchical structure of communication.
- A. provide evidence that animals other than humans
- B. provides evidence that animals other than humans
- C. provide evidence that an animal other than humans
- D. provides evidence that an animal other than a human
- E. provide evidence that animals, like humans,

### Q3. According to industry analysts, the recent growth in the number of hybrid motor vehicles in major metropolitan areas are likely to accelerate in the future.

- A. the number of hybrid motor vehicles in major metropolitan areas are
- B. the numbers of hybrid motor vehicles in major metropolitan areas are
- C. the number of hybrid motor vehicles in major metropolitan areas is
- D. the numbers of hybrid motor vehicles in major metropolitan areas is
- E. hybrid motor vehicles' numbers in major metropolitan areas are

## Q4. According to a recent study conducted at over 100 American universities, the number of college graduates interested in pursuing a career in financial services is likely to double by 2010.

- A. is likely to double
- B. are likely to increase by twice
- C. are likely to double
- D. will double
- E. will increase by twice

### Q5. Since 1929, when the global telegraph business peaked, the number of telegrams delivered annually have decreased from

- 200 million to only 21,000 last year.
- A. have decreased from 200 million
- B. have been reduced from 200 million
- C. has decreased from 200 million
- D. has been reduced from 200 million down
- E. has decreased from 200 million down

### Q6. As the honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed, staying where it is inserted, this results in the act of stinging causing the bee to sustain a fatal injury.

- 1. As the honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed, staying where it is inserted, this results in the act of stinging causing
- 2. As the heavily barbed stinger of the honeybee stays where it is inserted, with the result that the act of stinging causes
- 3. The honeybee's stinger, heavily barbed and staying where it is inserted, results in the fact that the act of stinging causes
- 4. The heavily barbed stinger of the honeybee stays where it is inserted, and results in the act of stinging causing
- 5. The honeybee's stinger is heavily barbed and stays where it is inserted, with the result that the act of stinging causes

### Q7. The amount of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like accidents caused by faulty wiring, has increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing have been relaxed.

- 1. The amount of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like accidents caused by faulty wiring, has increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing have been relaxed.
- 2. The amount of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like those caused by faulty wiring, have increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing were relaxed.
- 3. The number of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like the number caused by faulty wiring, have increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing were relaxed.
- 4. The number of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like accidents caused by faulty wiring, has increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing had been relaxed.
- 5. The number of car accidents caused by faulty brakes, like the number caused by faulty wiring, has increased significantly since regulations on manufacturing were relaxed.

#### Q8. Every workday at dawn, the patriarch of one of the city's five richest families leaves his mansion and walks to city hall.

- A. richest families leaves his mansion and walks
- B. richest families leave his mansion and walk
- C. richest families leaves his mansion and walk
- D. richer families leave his mansion and walks
- E. richer families leaves his mansion and walks

### Q9. In comparison with tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone of maximum winds located farther from the centre, and typically have a less symmetric wind field.

- A. with tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone of maximum winds located farther from the centre, and typically have
- B. with tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone of maximum winds located farther from the centre, and typically has
- C. with tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone located farther from the centre of maximum winds, and typically have
- D. to tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone of maximum winds located farther from the centre, and typically have
- E. E. to tropical cyclone systems, subtropical cyclone systems have a relatively broad zone of maximum winds located farther from the centre, and typically has
- Q10. Since the last election, the lobbying effort initiated by environmental organizations, homeowners, and small business owners have increased awareness of pending environmental legislation.
- A. have increased awareness of pending environmental legislation
- B. have increased awareness about pending legislation dealing with the environment
- C. has increased awareness about pending environmental legislation
- o D. has increased awareness of pending environmental legislation
- E. has increased awareness of environmental legislation that is still pending cally has

### Q11. Since 1989, after the Berlin Wall had been demolished, one of the most problematic ethnic groups in the reunified Germany, in cultural and economic assimilation terms, were the former East Germans, who have had to acclimate to an entirely different political system.

- A. after the Berlin Wall had been demolished, one of the most problematic ethnic groups in the reunified German, in cultural
- B. and economic assimilation terms, were the former East Germans
- C. after the Berlin Wall was demolished, one of the most problematic ethnic groups in the reunified Germany, in cultural terms as well as those of economic assimilation, were the former East Germans
- D. when the Berlin Wall was demolished, one of the reunified Germany's most problematic ethnic groups, in terms of cultural and economic assimilation, was the former East Germans
- E. after the Berlin Wall had been demolished, one of the most problematic ethnic groups in the reunified Germany, in both terms of cultural and economic assimilation, have been the former East Germans

### Q12. Noting that the price of oil and other fuel components, a major factor in the cost structure of an airline, have risen and will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about their outlook for the upcoming quarter.

- A. have risen and will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about their
- B. have risen and will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about the
- o C. will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about the
- D. has risen and will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about their
- E. will continue to rise, the company management was pessimistic about their

### Q13. A higher interest rate is only one of the factors, albeit an important one, that keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did earlier in the decade.

- 1. keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did
- 2. keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, as it did
- 3. keeps the housing market from spiraling out of control, as it did
- 4. keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, like
- 5. keep the housing market from spiraling out of control, like it did

# Q14. The Daughters of the American Revolution, a volunteer service organization, admits as members only women who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution.

- 1. admits as members only women who can prove lineal descent
- 2. admit as members only women who can prove lineal descent
- 3. admits as members women who can prove lineal descent
- 4. only admit as members women who can prove lineal descent
- 5. admits as members women who can prove lineal descent only

Q15. Consumption of bread products made from ergot-infected grains often trigger severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also cause a significant reduction in maternal bleeding after childbirth.

- A. bread products made from ergot-infected grains often trigger severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also cause a significant reduction in
- B. products made from ergot-infected grains often trigger severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also cause significantly reduced
- C. bread products made from ergot-infected grains often triggers severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also causes a significant reduction in
- D. bread made from ergot-infected grains often triggers severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also cause a significant reduction in
- E. bread products made from ergot-infected grains often trigger severely debilitating symptoms such as muscle contractions, seizures and gangrene but, at a proper dose, also causes a significantly reduced

Q16. Since the mid-1990s, the central government of Botswana has been forcibly removing native Bushmen from the Central Kalahari Game Reserve; the government justifies their actions by stating that it is too costly to provide such basic services like medical care and schooling to such a remote area.

- o a. justifies their actions by stating that it is too costly to provide such basic services like
- b. justifies their actions by stating it is too costly and expensive to provide such basic services as
- o c. justify their actions by stating that it is too costly to provide basic services like
- d. justify its actions by stating that it is too costly and expensive to provide such a basic service as
- e. justifies its actions by stating that it is too costly to provide such basic services as

### Q17. The governor's team of advisors, including her education and political strategists, has not been available for comment since the governor released her controversial education reform proposal.

- has not been available for comment since the governor released her controversial education reform proposal
- have not been available for comment since the governor released her controversial education reform proposal
- have not been available for comment since she released her proposal on controversial education reform
- has not been available for comment since she released her controversial education reform proposal
- has not been available to make comments since she released her proposal on controversial reform in education

### Q18. Hogarth's engravings, which provide a vivid portrait of eighteenth-century London, are of

- interest to both artists and historians.
- A. are of interest to both
- B. are interests both for
- C. are both interesting to
- D. is of interest to both
- E. is interesting for both

#### Q19. The banana that contains high level of potassium and other important minerals are considered to be one of nature's healthiest fruits.

- A. The banana that contains high level of potassium and other important minerals are considered to be
- B. The banana, which contains high levels of potassium and other important minerals, is considered
- C. The banana, which contain high levels of potassium and other important minerals, is considered to be
- D. Bananas which contain high levels of potassium and other important minerals are considered
- E. The banana, which contains high levels of potassium and other important minerals, is considered to be

### Q20. The increase in unemployment rates, coupled with significantly increased retail prices as well as energy costs, are forcing many homeowners to look into alternative sources of fuel in order to save money on winter heating.

- A. unemployment rates, coupled with significantly increased retail prices as well as energy costs, are
- B. rates of unemployment, coupled with significant increases in retail prices and energy costs, have been
- C. unemployment rates, coupled with significant increases in both retail prices and energy costs, is
- D. unemployment rates, coupled with significantly increased retail prices as well as energy costs, is
- E. rates of unemployment, coupled with significant increases in both retail as well as energy costs, had been

# Q21. Every workday at dawn, the patriarch of one of the city's five richest families leaves his mansion and walks to city hall.

- A. richest families leaves his mansion and walks
- B. richest families leave his mansion and walk
- o C. richest families leaves his mansion and walk
- D. richer families leave his mansion and walks
- E. richer families leaves his mansion and walks