

世纪应用英语 语法教程

Century Applied English

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第十四章

主谓一致



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主谓一致(Agreement Between Subject and Predicate Verb)

在英语句子里，主语的人称和数量直接影响着谓语动词的形式变化，也就是人们常说的主谓一致关系。一般情况下，主谓之间的一致关系应遵照以下三个原则：

主 谓 一 致	形式一致	主语单复数形式与谓语应一致。
		Her job has something to do with computers.
	意义一致	主语意义上的单复数要与谓语的单复数形式一致。
		The United States is a developed country.
	就近原则	谓语动词的单复数形式取决于最靠近它的主语。
		Neither Richard nor I am going.

一致关系 (Agreement) 是两个语法成分在人称、性别及数等方面的一致关系。这些关系有时可能几个交织在一起。

人称一致关系存在于主语和谓语动词之间, 如I am, You are, He/She/It is, We are, I do, You do, He/She/It does, We/You/They do 等; 代词与被替代的名词之间。如:

Culture includes the beliefs we learn. It is the patterns of behavior that help people to live together.

文化包括我们学到的信仰和态度, 是有助于人们共同生活在一起的行为模式。性别一致关系存在于名词或代词与第三人称的人称代词 (或物主代词) 之间。如:

In April 1995, a young Chinese chemistry student at Beijing University lay dying in a Beijing hospital. She was in a coma, and although her doctors had performed numerous tests, they could not discover what was killing her.她处于昏迷状态, 生命垂危。医生们做了多次检查。仍未查明原因。

在英语中，一致关系最重要的类型是主语和动词之间第三人称数的一致。一致关系根本规则是：单数主语用单数动词，复数主语用复数动词。如：

My daughter reads newspapers after supper. [单数主语+ 单数动词]

My daughters read newspapers after supper. [复数主语+ 复数动词]

什么样的主语是单数？什么样的主语是复数？这要看集合名词的数、带或不带有复数标记的名词的数、并列主语的数、不定代词的数、从句的数等。由于以上所列各项都有算作是单数或算作是复数的可能，情况就比较复杂，使用单、复数动词的具体规则也相应复杂起来。有些规则属于例外或由于习惯所形成。然而，所有这些规则都离不开一致关系的三个原则：语法一致（Grammatical Concord）、意义一致（Notional Concord）和就近原则（Proximity）。

1. 语法一致

The girl uses her own dictionary. 这个女孩使用她自己的词典。

The girls use their own dictionaries. 这些女孩用她们自己的词典。

2. 意义一致

Her family are all well. 她全家人身体都很健康。

3. 就近原则

Either your brakes or your eyesight is at fault.

要么就是你的刹车有问题，要么就是你的视力有问题。

三个原则虽然不同，但在具体运用中，它们通常是协调统一的，并不矛盾。首先必须注意的是，在正式用法中往往遵循语法一致的原则，这一原则是为教学和编辑传统所肯定的。但是，看一个词是否是复数，并不只看标记，因为带有复数标记的词有时是单数，如news（新闻）、means（方法；手段）；不带有复数标记的词有时是复数，如family（家庭成员）、class（全班学生）和audience（各位听众）等。因此，在“The audience were enjoying every minute of it.”这样的一个句子中，动词和主语在数上是一致的，它既符合意义一致的原则，也不违反语法一致的原则。其次，在语法一致原则和意义一致原则都不能起指导作用的情况下，就近原则可起到一种次要的决定作用。第三，对口语来说，意义一致的原则最为自然。

有关不同的主语在数方面和谓语动词的一致关系，下面列举常见的一些规则。

— 集体名词作主语时的主谓一致



1. 整体概念还是具体成员

集体名词作主语，如果指整体概念，谓语动词用单数形式；如果指具体成员，谓语动词用复数形式。常见的这类名词有family（家；家庭；全家人），class（班级；全班同学），audience（观众；观众人数），team（队；队员们），couple（夫妻；情侣），crew（全体船员或机组），committee（委员会；委员们），government（政府），group（公众）等。试比较：

His family are all music fans. 他家的人都喜欢音乐。

The family consists of three people. 这个家庭由三人构成。

The Government has decided to pass the bill. 政府已决定通过该法案。

The Government have discussed the matter for a long time. 这件事政府已讨论好久了。

2. 总是接复数谓语动词的集体名词

有些有生命的集体名词作主语时，谓语动词只用复数形式。常见的这类名词有cattle, police, people, youth, mankind, personnel, poultry（全体人员）等。如：

The police have arrived at the scene.

警察已经到了事发现场。

【注】

(1) people 表示“民族”时有单复数形式，但表示“人，人民”时为复数意义，不可加s。如：

There are many peoples in the world.

世界上有许多不同的民族。

She likes talking with all sorts of people.

她喜欢跟各种各样的人谈话。

— 集体名词作主语时的主谓一致



(2) 这类名词有些有相应的表示个体成员的词，有单复数的变化。如
mankind—man,the English—Englishman:

Mankind are responsible for their behavior.

人类要对自己的行为负责。

Man is responsible for his behavior.

人类要对自己的行为负责。



单、复数同形的名词作主语时的主谓一致



单、复数同形的名词，如sheep（绵羊），fish（鱼），deer（鹿），fruit（水果），horsepower（马力），series（系列），species（种类），means（手段），works（工厂），headquarters（司令部），crossroads（十字路口），crossways（十字路口），aircraft（飞机）等。作主语时，谓语动词的单、复数形式取决于句意或名词前的修饰语。试比较：

Every crossroads is busy. 每一个十字路口都很繁忙。

All crossroads in this area have traffic lights. 这个地区的所有十字路口都有交通信号灯。

这些名词包括有成双部分的衣物名称, 如trousers, pants, pajamas, shorts, socks, gloves等; 工具名称, 如scissors, glasses, spectacles 等作主语时, 谓语动词用复数形式。如果这类名词用a/this/that pair of 来修饰, 谓语动词用单数形式。试比较:

His glasses are very expensive. 他的眼镜很贵。

This pair of glasses is very expensive. 这副眼镜很贵。

许多以-ics 结尾的学科名词，如mathematics（数学）、physics（物理学）、economics（经济学）、statistics（统计学）、politics（政治学）等作主语时，谓语动词用单数，如：

Economics is my major. 经济学是我的主修科。

但是，如果这些学科名词表示具体实践活动，则是复数名词，谓语动词要用复数形式。

试比较：

Mathematics is an interesting science. 数学是一门有趣的科学。

Her mathematics are weak. 她的数学很差。

Economics is a study of production and consumption. 经济学研究的是生产与消费。

The economics in this country are stable. 该国经济稳定。

1. 以-s 结尾的国名、地名、报刊名、组织名作主语时的主谓一致

以-s 结尾的国名、地名、报刊名、组织名，如The New York Times（《纽约时报》）、The United Nations（联合国）、The Arabian Nights（《天方夜谭》）、The Canterbury Tales（《坎特伯雷故事集》）等作主语时，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

The United Nations was founded in San Francisco in 1945.

联合国是1945 年在旧金山成立的。

2. 以-s 结尾的表示群岛、瀑布、山脉等专有名词作主语时的主谓一致

以-s 结尾的表示群岛、瀑布、山脉等专有名词，如The Alps（阿尔卑斯山脉），The Philippines（菲律宾群岛），The Niagara Falls（尼亚加拉瀑布），The Himalayas（喜马拉雅山），The Great Lakes（五大湖）等作主语时，谓语动词用复数形式。如：

The Himalayas are the roof of the world. 喜马拉雅山是世界的屋脊。

1. “one of + 可数名词复数+ 定语从句”与 “the one of...”或 “the only one of... +定语从句”结构中的主谓一致

前者从句谓语动词用复数形式，后者从句谓语动词用单数形式。试比较：

That is one of the most beautiful parks that have been built.

这是已经建好的最美丽的公园之一。

Mr. Wang was the only one of the passengers who was killed in the traffic accident.

王先生是这起交通事故中唯一丧生的乘客。

2. “a number of + 复数名词”与 “the number of + 名词”作主语时的主谓一致
“a number of + 复数名词”的中心词是短语中的名词，故谓语动词用复数形式；
“the number of + 名词”的中心词是number，故谓语动词用单数形式。
与这两个短语用法类似的有a total of 与the total of, an average of 与the average of。如：

A number of children were seriously ill. 有几个孩子病得很严重。
The number of pages in this book is 2,352. 本书页数是2, 352。
A total of 10,000 books are printed this season. 本季节共印刷10,000 册图书。
The total of the books printed this season is 10,000. 本季节书的印刷总数是10,000 册。

【注】

下面的短语作主语时，谓语动词用复数：a majority of (大多数的)，a variety of (各种各样的)，a mountain of (堆积如山的)，a sea of faces (人山人海)，a storm of locusts (肆虐的蝗虫)，a rain of (雨点般的) 等。

3. “an amount of/a quantity of + 不可数名词”与 “amounts of/quantities of + 不可数名词”作主语时的主谓一致前者作主语时，谓语动词用单数；后者作主语时，谓语动词用复数。如：

A large amount of money has been spent on the project. 这项工程耗费了大量的资金。

A large quantity of desert covers the land. 大量的沙漠覆盖了这片国土。

Small amounts of land were used for raising animals. 少量的土地被用来饲养动物。

Large quantities of coal are needed in the power plants every year. 发电厂每年需要大量的煤。

4. “form/kind/sort/type/part/portion/section + of + 名词” 结构作主语时的主谓一致这一结构谓语动词的单复数取决于这些词的单复数，与of 后面的名词无关。如：

The kind of books an author writes depends on the kind of man who he is.

什么样的作家写什么样的书。

These kinds of apple(s) are easy to grow.

这些品种的苹果容易种植。

5. “all/most/half/enough/the rest/the remainder 等+ of ...”短语作主语时的主谓一致这一结构作主语时，主谓一致遵循意义一致的原则。如果指复数意义，谓语动词用复数形式；如果指单数意义，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

All are eager to sign a contract.

所有的人都急于签合同。

All is ready for the reception.

接待工作一切都准备就绪了。

Most of them are members of the committee.

他们大多数人是委员会的成员。

Most of the food tastes delicious.

大多数食物的味道都很好。

When enough of the tree is chopped away, the tree falls.

如果一棵树砍去的部分足够多，树就会倒。

6. “none of/neither of/either of ...”构成的短语作主语时的主谓一致

(1) none of 后面若接的是可数名词，做主语时，谓语动词单复数形式都可以；若接的是不可数名词，则用单数形式。如：

None of them has/have come.

他们之中没有人来。

None of the cement has arrived.

一点水泥也没有到。

(2) neither of... either of...构成的短语作主语时，谓语动词一般用单数形式，但在口语中通常用复数形式。如：

Neither of the customers has replied.

两个顾客都没有答复。

Either of the children are eager to try.

两个孩子都很想试一下。

由and 连接的并列主语的主谓一致

该结构中的两个名词若指不同的人或事物，谓语动词用复数形式；若指同一个人或事物时，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

A hammer and a saw are useful tools. 锤子和锯是有用的工具。（不同事物）

The hammer and sickle is flying from the flagpole. 共产党的党旗在旗杆上飘扬。（同一物）

Their cashier and secretary was present at the meeting. 他们的出纳兼秘书出席了这次会议。

The cashier and the secretary were present at the meeting. 出纳和秘书都出席了这次会议。

Fish and chips is a popular meal in Britain. 鱼炸土豆片在英国是很受欢迎的膳食。

Fish and chips are not enough for him. 鱼和炸土豆片对他来说不够。

常见的表示同一人或事物的组合有: the secretary and manager (书记兼经理), the tenth and last chapter (第十章即最后一章), the poet and singer (诗人兼歌唱家), war and peace (战争与和平), brown bread and butter (涂了黄油的黑面包), egg and rice (蛋炒饭), a needle and thread (穿了线的针), bacon and eggs (咸肉鸡蛋), law and order (治安) 等。

【注】

在用 “each... and each...” 和 “every... and every...” 结构做主语的句子中, 谓语动词用单数形式。如:

Every man and every woman is required to vote for the candidate.
要求每个人都投票选举那位候选人。

1. both ...and 连接的两个名词或代词作主语, 谓语动词用复数形式。

Both rice and cotton grow in abundance in this part of China.

中国的这一地区盛产大米和棉花。

2. or, either... or, neither... nor..., not only... but (also)等连接的并列成分作主语时, 谓语动词与相邻主语的数要取得一致。如:

Either the principal or the teachers were to blame. 不是校长就是教师们应承担责任。

3. 主语后面若出现由with, together with, along with, as well as, besides, like, in addition to, no less than, rather than, as much as, including等准并列连词引导的短语时, 不管该短语

是单数还是复数, 谓语动词的单复数不受这些短语的影响。如:

A woman with three children has come. 一个妇女带着三个孩子已经来了。

The driver, rather than the passengers, was responsible for the accident.

事故的责任应该由驾驶员而不是乘客们来承担。

1. 动词不定式短语、动名词短语、介词短语或从句作主语时，用单数动词。如：
To stop the work now seems impossible. 现在把工作停下来似乎已不可能。
To err is human; to forgive, divine. 犯错人皆难免；宽恕则属超凡。
Making tests is a good way to find out answers to questions.
做试验是找到问题答案的好方法。
After the meeting is the time to sightsee. 散会以后才是观光的时间。
What she told me is true. 她告诉我的事是真实的。

【注】

在以what 引导的从句中，what 有时表示复数意义，作主语时就要用复数动词，如：

What ideas he has are his wife's. 他的那些想法是他妻子的。

2. 主语是不可数事物或抽象概念，谓语动词用单数形式。这类词常见的有 news (消息)，equipment (设备)，dream (梦想)，hope (希望)，the unknown (未知的事物)，the beautiful (美)，the ugly (丑)，the worst (最坏的情况)，the good (善)，the evil (恶)，the true (真)，the false (假) 等。如：

News is traveling fast nowadays. 在当今的时代，新闻传播得很快。

This equipment is imported from Japan. 这台设备是日本进口的。

3. 主语是数词加表示时间、度、量、衡、金钱等复数名词时，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

500 miles is not a very long distance. 500 英里并不是很远的距离。

One hundred and fifty yuan is too unreasonable a price for that second-hand bicycle.

那辆二手车要价150 元太不合理了。

4. each, every, either, no, many a, more than one, one of, neither of, each of 后面接主语时，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

One of the students was absent. 其中一名学生缺课。

Many a person has had that kind of experience. 很多人有这种经历。

More than one person was involved in the case. 不止一个人牵涉在这个案件中。

5. “the + 形容词”作主语时，如果泛指一类人，谓语动词用复数；如果指个别人，谓语动词用单数。如：

The old are well looked after by the young.

年轻人对老年人照顾得很好。（泛指一类人）

The accused was found guilty.

那个被告被判有罪。（指个别人）

Some of the accused were found guilty.

被告中有几个被判有罪。（泛指一类人）

6. “a series of, a portion of, a species of, a piece of 等+ 名词（单数或复数）” 作主语时，谓语动词用单数形式。如：

A series of lectures on American literature is said to have been delivered by Prof Nelson. 据说纳尔逊教授已经进行了一系列有关美国文学的讲座。

7. 分数和百分比修饰可数名词作主语时，谓语的形式取决于它们所表示的意义。
如：

About one third of the books are worth reading.

这些书中大约有三分之一的内容值得一读。

Only 20 percent of the work was done yesterday.

昨天只干了20%的活儿。

About 20 percent of the students are absent today.

今天大约有20%的学生缺席。

8. 主语由 “lots of, heaps of 等+ 名词” 构成时, 该结构谓语动词的单复数形式取决于其后的名词的单、复数形式。如:

Lots of people were out for the holidays.

许多人出去度假。

Lots of staff is going to see the movie.

许多工作人员将去看电影。

主谓一致主要测试某些特殊名词、代词特殊结构等做主语时与谓语动词在数方面的一致。解题时应注意以下几点：

1. 确定句子主语。
2. 判断主语的人称、数，根据主谓一致的三个原则确定动词的单复数。
3. 利用时态标志词确定动词时态。
4. 根据空格后有无宾语或宾语是否齐全或动词是否及物来确定动词的语态。

如：

The manager, as well as his advisers, _____ to attend the world fair.
(2001.6)

- A. are agreed C. have agreed
B. were agreed D. has agreed

句子主语是the manager，属第三人称单数；agree 是不及物动词，在此句中不可用被动语态，故答案为D。

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

A

1. No news _____ good news.

A. is B. are C. was D. were

C

2. Many a student _____ the exam.

A. fail B. fails C. has failed D. have failed

D

3. Lots of money _____ for travel.

A. are spent B. have been spent C. spent D. was spent

B

4. Bob and Ted _____ good friends.

A. is B. are C. was D. been

B

5. Either Jackson or his friends _____ wrong.

A. is B. are C. have been D. have

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

6. Not only the children but also their father _____ to watch the cartoon film.

- A. like B. likes C. has liked D. have liked

D

7. Some of the students, as well as the teacher, _____ a heated discussion.

- A. has B. have C. was having D. were having

C

8. The police _____ the criminal.

- A. is chasing B. was chasing
C. are chasing D. have being chasing

A

9. One thousand dollars _____ quite a large sum of money to him.

- A. is B. are C. was D. been

D

10. It isn't cold enough for there _____ a frost tonight, so I can leave my car outside quite safely.

- A. is B. was C. being D. to be

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

A

11. Over 50 percent of the demonstrators _____ students.

A. are B. is C. was D. being

A

12. The secretary and manger _____ present at the meeting.

A. was B. were C. have D. had

A

13. Early to bed and early to rise _____ a good habit.

A. is B. are C. have been D. has been

A

14. The bread and butter _____ for breakfast.

A. is served B. are served C. has served D. have served

B

15. Either the principal or his assistants _____ to attend the meeting.

A. is B. are C. has D. be

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

16. One or two friends _____ coming this evening.

A. is B. are C. has been D. were

D

17. Most of his spare time _____ spent in reading.

A. be B. are C. were D. was

B

18. Half of the oranges _____ bad.

A. is B. are C. being D. has been

B

19. Both the secretary and the manager _____ agreed to be present.

A. has B. have C. has been D. were to be

B

20. There _____ only a small quantity of paper left.

A. be B. is C. being D. are

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

B

21. A number of students _____ from the south.

A. is B. are C. was D. be

D

22. The number of students from the north _____ small.

A. are B. were C. have been D. is

B

23. The variety of goods on sale in that shop _____ surprising.

A. be B. is C. are D. being

C

24. There _____ a variety of toys on sale in that shop.

A. be B. is C. are D. was

B

25. No one except my parents _____ anything about it.

A. know B. knows C. have known D. are known

Choose the best answer from the four choices marked A, B, C and D.

A

26. More than one defendant _____ involved in the case.

A. is B. are C. being D. been

C

27. Every man, woman, and child in this community _____ now aware of the terrible consequences of smoking.

A. be B. is being C. is D. have been

A

28. Nothing but trees _____ to be seen.

A. was B. were C. been D. have

A

29. The agreeable _____ not always the useful.

A. is B. are C. being D. been

A

30. Every means of communication between here and outside _____ interrupted.

A. is B. are C. being D. have been

THANK YOU



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