Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

Lesson 45

Intervening Prepositional Phrases

The verb must agree with the subject of the sentence, not with the object of a preposition. Thus, the subject of a sentence is never contained in a prepositional phrase.

The **collection** of rare stamps **was** very valuable. (The subject is *collection,* a singular noun. *Of rare stamps* is a prepositional phrase with a plural object. The verb *was* agrees with the singular subject *collection*.)

The **puppies** in the basket **have** brown fur. (The subject is *puppies,* a plural noun. *In the basket* is a prepositional phrase with a singular object. The verb *have* agrees with the plural subject *puppies*.)

Grammar

Place all prepositional phrases in parentheses, then underline the correct verb to complete the sentence

The bouquet (of flowers) (is, are) for Amanda.

1. Apartments in this city (is required, are required) to have smoke alarms.
2. A convoy of trucks (is roaring, are roaring) down the highway.
3. This list of names (is, are) very important.
4. A dealer in rare books (was asked, were asked) to look at the collection.
5. All the students in the school (is wearing, are wearing) green today.
6. The bush of roses in full bloom (was, were) a beautiful sight.
7. Spies for our government (was arrested, were arrested) in France.
8. The members of the Senate committee (walks, walk) solemnly into the room.
9. Applicants for this job (is expected, are expected) to speak both English and Spanish.
10. A busload of tourists (was taking, were taking) photographs.
11. The view of the mountains (was spoiled, were spoiled) by the building.
12. That group of stars (is called, are called) the Big Dipper.
13. Some explorers of the New World (was looking, were looking) for the Fountain of Youth.
14. The musicians in the orchestra (is taking, are taking) their seats.
15. The bag of marbles (belongs, belong) to my little sister.
16. A box of warm coats (was delivered, were delivered) to the shelter.
17. The green areas on the map (indicates, indicate) parks.
18. Many secrets of the universe (has, have) yet to be discovered.
19. Life forms beneath the sea (seems, seem) mysterious.

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20. The grove of birch trees (is shining, are shining) in the sun.

21. The pot of flowers (looks, look) lovely on the table.

22. Sounds of distant music (floats, float) through the air.

23. Students who major in computer science (has, have) good prospects for employment.

24. Any traveler in distant lands (has, have) to keep an open mind.

25. Employees at Grump's Department Store (gets, get) a half-hour for lunch.

26. The leaves on the maple tree (is turning, are turning) bright red.

27. Cars driving through the tunnel (turns, turn) their lights on.

28. The houses along Pine Street (has, have) tidy yards.

29. Mr. Alonzo, the baker of these pastries, (does, do) fine work.

30. The sailors on the ship (rejoices, rejoice) at seeing land.

31. The apples beneath the tree (bakes, bake) well in pies.

32. Several teaspoons of cinnamon (was added, were added) to the mix.

33. The socks under the bed (was found, were found) by the puppy.

34. Shouts from the crowd (is frightening, are frightening) the baby.

35. People on the beach (was building, were building) sand castles.

36. Teams from our school (dominates, dominate) most athletic events.

37. Rising mists from the moor (casts, cast) an aura of mystery over the scene.

38. Her frequent changes of residence (is confusing, are confusing) the post office.

39. Survivors of the war (is marching, are marching) in the parade.

40. A shipment of cookies (is arriving, are arriving) at the grocery store.

▶ **Writing Link** **Write sentences that contain the following intervening prepositional phrases:** ***of these video games, with the tractor, under the car's massive engine,*** **and** ***at the ballet.***

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