

Exercise 3.4: Verb Forms

Select the correct verb in the following sentences.

1) Lie or Lay

- a. He (**lay**, lie) the book on the table. *(Point out to students that this sentence appears to be in the present tense. The correct word would “laid” if it were in the past tense.)*
- b. Albert Greenback has (**laid**, lain) the groundwork for a comeback.
- c. I think I’ll (**lie**, lay) down for a while.
- d. The disgraced politician has (**lain**, laid) low for a long time.
- e. We (**lay**, laid) in bed all day Sunday.
- f. She has (**lain**, laid) on the couch all day.
- g. Benjamin Braddock spent the summer after college graduation (**laying**, lying) round the house.
- h. We (**lay**, laid) there, wondering if anyone would find us.
- i. Don’t expect to (**lie**, lay) there all day.
- j. You (**laid**, lay) the expensive watch where it could be stolen.

2) Rise and Raise

- a. Prices (raised, **rose**).
- b. The firm decided to (rise, **raise**) its prices.
- c. The Bible says that Jesus (raise, **rose**) from the dead.
- d. The bread has (**risen**, raised).
- e. The senator said he was reluctant to (**raise**, rise) the issue of new taxes, but he was willing to (raise, **rise**) and join the fight if someone else would introduce the legislation.
- f. Prices have (**risen**, rose).
- g. (**Raise**, Rise) the drawbridge; a ship is coming.

- h. The manufacturers have (**raised**, risen) prices on cars.
- i. He (raised, **rose**) to the occasion.
- j. Don't expect your home to (raise, **rise**) in value during an economic downturn.
- k. Home sales drop anytime mortgage interest rates (raise, **rise**).

Exercise 3.5: Verb Agreement

Select the correct verb in the following sentences.

- 1) The president and the nation's governors (is, **are**) headed for a showdown on the legislation on immigration.
- 2) A husband and father (**is**, are) what he wanted to be.
- 3) Neither the pliers nor the quarter-inch drill bit (**has**, have) arrived.
- 4) A wrench, as well as 15 dozen half-inch drill bits, (**was**, were) delivered.
- 5) Either the president or his press secretary (**is**, are) will issue the statement.
- 6) Traditional, as well as non-traditional medicine, (**is**, are) covered in the president's health package.
- 7) Physicians – in addition to chiropractors, podiatrists and acupuncturists – (is, **are**) expected to make more money under the president's plan.
- ~~8~~) The House leadership, along with a majority of members from both parties, **support**, supports) the bill.
- 9) Among the constitutional rights we cherish (is, **are**) First Amendment rights.
- 10) Among the constitutional rights we cherish (**is**, are) freedom of the press.
- 11) Agreement between the Freedomian and Sylvanian delegates on the provisions of the peace accord (**appears**, appear) likely.
- 12) The number of U.N. officials in Afghanistan (appear, **appears**) likely to increase.
- 13) A number of civilians (was, **were**) killed in the attack.
- 14) That they would attack with helicopter gunships and rockets (**was**, were)

unexpected.

- 15) That terrorists had fired on the civilians (was, were) deplorable.
- 16) Three-fourths of the nation's homeless (face, faces) starvation.
- 17) About 33 percent of most people's income (is, are) spent on housing.
- 18) "Every one of you delegates (has, have) the power to change the system," the convention speaker said.
- 19) Each of the great inventors (appear, appears) to have gotten the fame (he, they) sought.
- 20) Much (has, have) been written about Franklin Roosevelt's presidency.
- 21) Nothing of their remains (was, were) helpful to the investigators.
- 22) None of the season's 13 typhoons (was, were) as destructive as the one that hit the Kyushu Islands on Sunday.
- 23) Measles (is, are) a potentially dangerous disease, according the American Medical Association.
- 24) The number of students studying mass communications in American universities(has, have) increased in the past 10 years.
25. Here (is, are) the subjects the governor will address in his State of the State speech.