Grammar Explanation

Subject-Verb Agreement: Basic rules

Change the verb form to agree with the subjects in the following three cases:

- When using the present tense, add –s to the verb if the subject of the sentence is or can be replaced by he, she, or it. If not, just use the simple form.
  - Example: *Bob works at his school; he does* research for the chemistry department.
  - Example: *His colleagues like him.*

- When using the BE verb alone or as a helping verb, use am/was if the subject is I; use is/was if the subject is or can be replaced by he, she, or it; use are/were if the subject is or can be replaced by we, they, or you.
  - Example: *The candidate is popular, but his positions on most issues are unclear.*
  - Example: *When he was a school principal, some of his policies were controversial.*

- When using the HAVE verb alone or as a helping verb, use has if the subject is or can be replaced with he, she, or it; use have if the subject is or can be replaced by I, you, we, or they.
  - Example: *Jane has no idea why the meetings have been cancelled.*

Excerpted from: Subject-Verb Agreement: Exercise 1