Grammar Explanation

Subject-Verb Agreement: Subject with several words

- A subject can be a single word or a phrase. A long noun phrase has a head subject, and a group of words that describe the head subject.

  - Example: *The statistics in Doctor Kenneth's controversial article are inaccurate.*

  Note that the phrase *in Doctor Kenneth's controversial article* simply describes the head subject, which is *statistics*.

- The verb must agree with the head subject, not with another noun in the group of words that follow it.

  - Incorrect: *The students who conducted the research with Professor Eliot was praised by the president.*

  - Corrected: *The students who conducted the research with Professor Eliot were praised by the president.*

Excerpted from: Subject-Verb Agreement: Exercise 2