

WORKSHEET 6

Ensuring Agreement with Collective Nouns and
with *Don't* and *Doesn't* (Rules 2 i, k)

EXERCISE A In each of the following sentences, underline the verb form in parentheses that agrees with the subject.

EXAMPLE 1. The team (was, were) happy about winning.

1. A fleet of British ships (*are*, *is*) sailing into the harbor.
2. The band (*is*, *are*) playing Irish music tonight.
3. The band (*are*, *is*) tuning their instruments first.
4. What (*has*, *have*) the class done to improve their scores?
5. Our family (*talks*, *talk*) all at once when the discussions get lively.
6. In the stadium, the crowd (*cheer*, *cheers*) wildly.
7. The Environmental Science Club (*have*, *has*) started a recycling program.
8. The committee (*check*, *checks*) their calendars for possible open dates.
9. Who (*are*, *is*) the staff who disagreed about the new proposal?
10. The staff (*is*, *are*) in charge of greeting guests.

EXERCISE B In each of the following sentences, underline the correct contraction in parentheses.

EXAMPLE 1. Cactuses (*doesn't*, *don't*) need much water.

1. Sergei (*don't*, *doesn't*) remember that Juno is a Roman goddess.
2. Fortunately, my dogs (*doesn't*, *don't*) bark all night.
3. (*Don't*, *Doesn't*) the Portuguese language sound beautiful?
4. Marta (*doesn't*, *don't*) play the oboe as well as she plays the flute.
5. The team members (*don't*, *doesn't*) run during every practice.
6. My grandmother (*don't*, *doesn't*) check her e-mail on weekends.
7. (*Doesn't*, *Don't*) the rainfall sound soothing?
8. You (*don't*, *doesn't*) have to memorize the formula.
9. Those students (*don't*, *doesn't*) want the class to end.
10. He (*doesn't*, *don't*) hear the phone ringing.