

## **Important Notes for 8th Grade Grammar:**

### **“Be” - Present Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	am	are
2nd	are	are
3rd	is	are

### **“Be” - Past Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	was	were
2nd	were	were
3rd	was	were

### **“Be” - Future Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	will be	will be
2nd	will be	will be
3rd	will be	will be

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### **“Have” - Present Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	have	have
2nd	have	have
3rd	has	have

**“Have”- Past Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	had	had
2nd	had	had
3rd	had	had

**“Have”- Future Tense**

Person	Singular	Plural
1st	will have	will have
2nd	will have	will have
3rd	will have	will have

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**Verb Formation Chart:****Progressive Tense: A form of the verb ‘to be’ + -ing verb**

<b>Present Progressive-</b> currently happening	Present form of be= am, is, are	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: am/are/is kicking
<b>Past Progressive-</b> was recently happening	Past form of be= was, were	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: was/were kicking
<b>Future Progressive-</b> will be happening shortly	Future form of be= will be	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: will be kicking

**Perfect Tense: A form of the verb 'to have' + past participle (for regular verbs, add -ed)**

<b>Present Perfect-</b> happened in past and still occurs	Present form of have= have, has	verb with -ed ending or past participle (varies for irregular verbs) = kicked, run, swum, jumped	ex: has/have kicked
<b>Past Perfect-</b> happened in the past UNTIL an event when it stopped happening	Past form of have= had	verb with -ed ending or past participle (varies for irregular verbs) = kicked, run, swum, jumped	ex: had kicked
<b>Future Perfect-</b> event that will have been completed by a point in the future	Future form of have= will have	verb with -ed ending or past participle (varies for irregular verbs) = kicked, run, swum, jumped	ex: will have kicked

**Perfect Progressive: perfect tenses of 'be' + -ing verb**

<b>Present Perfect Progressive-</b> happened in the past and still occurs	Present perfect form of be= has/have been	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: has been jumping
<b>Past Perfect Progressive-</b> happened in the past UNTIL an event when it stopped happening	Past perfect form of be= had been	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: had been jumping
<b>Future Perfect Progressive-</b> event that will have been completed by a point in the future	Future perfect form of be= will have been	verb with -ing ending= kicking, running, jumping	ex: will have been jumping

**General Apostrophe Use for Possessives:**

Kind of Nouns:	Singular	Plural
Nouns that do not end in 's'	+ 'S Ex: child → child's	+ 'S Ex: children → children's
Nouns that end in 's'	+ 'S Ex: boss → boss's	+ ' (APOSTROPHE) Ex: bosses → bosses'

**Common Errors in Spelling:**

You're = you are

**VS**

Your = possessive (ex: *your* book or *your* hair)

It's = It is

**VS**

Its = possessive of it (The dog wagged *its* tail.)

Their = possessive of they (*Their* book bags were heavy.)

**VS**

They're = they are

**VS**

There = location/statement (*There* are four desks. I am over *there*.)

Too = also/in addition (I want to go to the movies *too*!)

**VS**

Two = 2

**VS**

To = preposition (I went *to* the mall. I want *to* go dance.)

Were = past tense of the verb 'be' (You *were* at the party.)

**VS**

We're = we are

**VS**

Where = pronoun used for location (*Where* are you going?)

**Punctuation Usage:****Examples:**

<p>Commas ,</p> <p>Use between lists, to separate parenthetical expressions, before conjunctions introducing an independent clause. Always use BEFORE F.A.N.B.O.Y.S.</p>	<p>I like red, white, and blue.</p> <p>In 1769, when Napoleon was born, Corsica had but been recently acquired by France.</p> <p>The situation is dangerous, but there is still one way to escape.</p>
<p>Ellipses ...</p> <p>Used when omitting words in a quotation.</p>	<p>Original quote: "I love books so much, but I have no time to read. I am going to try to read more this summer."</p> <p>Shortened quote: "I love books... I am going to... read more this summer."</p>
<p>Semicolons ;</p> <p>Separate independent clauses (clauses that can stand alone) that are related or separate complicated lists.</p>	<p>I am very hungry; I am headed to Publix.</p> <p>I had homework from my math teacher, Mr. George; my Language Arts teacher, Ms. Licciardi; and my favorite teacher, Mr. Mendez.</p> <p>My favorite cities are Miami, Florida; San Diego, California; and Key West, Florida.</p>
<p>Parentheses ( )</p> <p>Used to include information that is not as important as the rest of the sentence but you still want to include it.</p>	<p>Thirty-five years after his death, Robert Frost (we remember him at Kennedy's inauguration) remains America's favorite poet.</p> <p>Thirty-five years after his death, Robert Frost (do you remember him?) remains America's favorite poet.</p>
<p>Quotation Marks ""</p> <p>Used to convey someone else's words; Article, poem, and story titles are used within quotes.</p>	<p>My father always said, "Be careful what you wish for."</p> <p>"Anabelle Lee"</p>
<p><i>Italics</i></p> <p>Used for movie titles, book titles, magazine and newspaper titles.</p>	<p><i>The Miami Herald, The Hunger Games.</i></p>
<p>Dashes --</p> <p>Set off an abrupt break or interruption and to announce a long appositive or summary.</p>	<p>His first thought on getting out of bed--if he had any thought at all--was to get back in again.</p> <p>The rear axle began to make a noise--a grinding, chattering, teeth-gritting rasp.</p> <p>All four of them—Bob, Jeffrey, Jason, and Brett—did well in college.</p>
<p>Colons :</p> <p>Used after an independent clause to</p>	<p>My purse holds important objects: my keys, pictures, phone, and wallet.</p>

introduce a list or a quotation.

Today's ceremony reminds me of a quote from Abraham Lincoln: "Most folks are as happy as they make up their minds to be."

Subjects cannot be in prepositional phrases. Find the subject and then make sure it agrees with the verb.

Example: One of the ducks quacks. *One* is the subject, because 'of the ducks' is a prepositional phrase, so *one* has to agree with *quacks*.

Be careful with the following: *All of, some of, few of, most of, many of...*

SINGULAR VERBS FOLLOW: *One, each, either, everyone, everybody, neither, nobody, someone.*

Ex: Everybody thinks...

None- whether it is singular or plural depends on whether it is used to represent multiples or one.

Ex: *None* of us is perfect. *None* are so guilty as those who know they're right.

If there are two subjects joined by and, it should go with a plural verb.

Ex: The walrus and the carpenter were walking together.

If there are two subjects THAT ARE SINGULAR and are enclosed in either/or or neither/nor use a singular verb.

Ex: My aunt or my uncle is arriving by train today. Neither Juan nor Carmen is available.

If you have two subjects that are singular and plural that are connected with either/or or neither/nor, THE VERB AGREES with the subject that is closer to it.

Ex: Neither the plates nor **the serving bowl** goes on that shelf. Neither the serving bowl nor **the plates** go on that shelf.

Some general rules:

- 'Here' and 'there' ARE NOT SUBJECTS. The subject then is in the rest of the sentence.

- With words that indicate portions—*a lot, a majority, some, all, etc.*—Rule 1 given earlier is reversed, and we are guided by the noun after *of*. If the noun after *of* is singular, use a singular verb. If it is plural, use a plural verb.

### Examples:

A lot of the **pie** has disappeared.

A lot of the **pies** have disappeared.

A third of the **city** is unemployed.

A third of the **people** are unemployed.

All of the **pie** is gone.

All of the **pies** are gone.

Some of the **pie** is missing.

Some of the **pies** are missing.

A dependent clause needs to be directly next to the noun/pronoun it is referring to. Example: Talking on the phone, the dog was walked by its owner through the park. This sentence states that the dog was talking on the phone. It should read: "Talking on the phone, the owner walked the dog through the park."

When you use quotation marks, the punctuation mark usually goes inside of the quotation mark.

Example: "Hi!" she exclaimed. "Do you want us to go," she continued, "or should we wait for you?"

<b><u>Verbals:</u></b>	<b>Examples:</b>
Gerund: -ing verbs that function as nouns.	<i>Running</i> is my favorite hobby. I love <i>running</i> .
Infinitive- to + verb that functions as an adjective, adverb, or noun.	<i>To wait</i> seemed foolish when decisive action was required. (subject) Everyone wanted <i>to go</i> . (direct object) His ambition is <i>to fly</i> . (subject complement) He lacked the strength <i>to resist</i> . (adjective) We must study <i>to learn</i> . (adverb)
Participle- -ing or -ed verbs that function as adjectives. Note: They can also be in phrases that include more information than just the verb. <i>Arriving at the store</i> , I found that it was closed. <i>Washing and polishing the car</i> , Frank developed sore muscles.	The <i>crying</i> baby had a wet diaper. <i>Shaken</i> , he walked away from the <i>wrecked</i> car. The <i>burning</i> log fell off the fire. <i>Smiling</i> , she hugged the <i>panting</i> dog.

<b>Verb Moods:</b>	<b>Examples:</b>
Indicative- a statement of reality/fact.	I am a teacher. A cat sits on the stove.
Imperative- command; implied subject (you)	Just do it. Please, pick up your room. Do your homework.

Interrogative- question.	Do you want to go to the mall?
Conditional- requires a condition or relies on something happening for something else to happen.	<p>The bomb might explode if I jiggle that switch.</p> <p>The bomb could explode if you jiggle that switch.</p> <p>If you do your homework, I will give you a good grade.</p>
<p><i>Subjunctive- used to express things that are hypothetical, wishful, imaginary, or factually contradictory. The subjunctive mood pairs singular subjects with what we usually think of as plural verbs.</i></p>	<p>The word <i>were</i> replaces <i>was</i> in sentences that express a wish or are contrary to fact:</p> <p><b>Example:</b> If Joe <b>were</b> here, you'd be sorry.</p> <p>Shouldn't Joe be followed by <i>was</i>, not <i>were</i>, given that Joe is singular? But Joe isn't actually here, so we say <i>were</i>, not <i>was</i>.</p> <p><b>Examples:</b> I wish it <b>were</b> Friday.</p> <p>She requested that he <b>raise</b> his hand.</p> <p>In the first example, a wishful statement, not a fact, is being expressed; therefore, <i>were</i>, which we usually think of as a plural verb, is used with the singular subject <i>I</i>.</p> <p>Normally, <i>he raise</i> would sound terrible to us. However, in the second example, where a request is being expressed, the subjunctive mood is correct.</p>

<b>Active Voice:</b> The subject performs the action of the verb.	<p>I walk the dog. <i>I</i>, the subject, is doing the action of walking the dog.</p> <p>The Hurricanes beat the Seminoles.</p>
<b>Passive Voice:</b> The action in the sentence is done TO the subject and not BY the subject.	<p>The dog is walked by me. The action, <i>walked</i>, is being done TO the subject, the dog, and not by it.</p> <p>The Seminoles were beaten by the Hurricanes.</p>

<p><b>Hyphens:</b></p> <p>Two or more words that collectively act as an adjective should be hyphenated when they appear immediately before the noun they modify. This helps prevent misreading.</p>
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Voters are fed up with this do-nothing congress.

The victim is being described only as a twenty-five-year-old man.

Does this come with a money-back guarantee?

The house comes with a state-of-the-art security system.

Though the one-bedroom condos are sold out, we still have several two-, three-, and four-bedroom units available.

The major exception is when the compound adjective begins with an adverb ending in *-ly*. In that case, since a misreading is unlikely, the hyphen is unnecessary. If the *-ly* adverb is part of a larger compound adjective, use a hyphen.

This is a poorly produced movie.

He followed up with a not-so-poorly-produced sequel.

### En Dash:

The en dash (–) is slightly wider than the **hyphen (-)** but narrower than the **em dash (—)**. The typical computer keyboard lacks a dedicated key for the en dash, though most word processors provide a means for its insertion.

### Span or range of numbers

The en dash is used to represent a span or range of numbers, dates, or time. There should be no space between the en dash and the adjacent material. Depending on the context, the en dash is read as “to” or “through.”

The 2010–2011 season was our best yet.

You will find this material in chapters 8–12.

The professor holds office hours every Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

If you introduce a span or range with words such as *from* or *between*, do not use the en dash.

Correct: She served as secretary of state from 1996 to 1999.

Incorrect: She served as secretary of state from 1996–1999.

Correct: The regime's most oppressive treatment occurred between 1965 and 1970.

Incorrect: The regime's most oppressive treatment occurred between 1965-1970.

## Scores

The en dash is used to report scores or results of contests.

The president's nominee was confirmed by the Senate, which voted 62-38 along party lines.

UCLA beat USC 28-14 in the final game of the regular season.

## Conflict or connection

The en dash can also be used between words to represent conflict, connection, or direction.

The liberal-conservative debate.

The Los Angeles-London flight.

There is a north-south railway in the same area as the highway that runs east-west.

## Em dash:

The em dash is perhaps the most versatile punctuation mark. Depending on the context, the em dash can take the place of **commas**, **parentheses**, or **colons**—in each case to slightly different effect.

Notwithstanding its versatility, the em dash is best limited to two appearances per sentence. Otherwise, confusion rather than clarity is likely to result.

## Em dashes in place of commas

A pair of em dashes can be used in place of commas to enhance readability. Note, however, that dashes are always more emphatic than commas.

And yet, when the car was finally delivered—nearly three months after it was ordered—she decided she no longer wanted it, leaving the dealer with an oddly equipped car that would be difficult to sell.

## Em dashes in place of parentheses

A pair of em dashes can replace a pair of parentheses. Dashes are considered less formal than parentheses; they are also more intrusive. If you want to draw attention to the parenthetical content, use dashes. If you want to include the parenthetical content more subtly, use parentheses.

Note that when dashes are used in place of parentheses, surrounding punctuation should be omitted. Compare the following examples.

Upon discovering the errors (all 124 of them), the publisher immediately recalled the books.

Upon discovering the errors—all 124 of them—the publisher immediately recalled the books.

When used in place of parentheses at the end of a sentence, only a single dash is used.

After three weeks on set, the cast was fed up with his direction (or, rather, lack of direction).

After three weeks on set, the cast was fed up with his direction—or, rather, lack of direction.

## The em dash in place of a colon

The em dash can be used in place of a **colon** when you want to emphasize the conclusion of your sentence. The dash is less formal than the colon.

After months of deliberation, the jurors reached a unanimous verdict—guilty.

The white sand, the warm water, the sparkling sun—this is what brought them to Hawaii.

## Multiple em dashes

Two em dashes can be used to indicate missing portions of a word, whether unknown or intentionally omitted.

Mr. J— testified that the defendant yelled, “Die, a—,” before pulling the trigger.

From the faded and water-damaged note, we made out only this: “Was ne—y going to m— K—, but now —t.”

When an entire word is missing, either two or three em dashes can be used. Whichever length you choose, use it consistently throughout your document. Surrounding

punctuation should be placed as usual.

The juvenile defendant, ———, was arraigned yesterday.

### **Spaces with the em dash**

The em dash is typically used without spaces on either side, and that is the style used in this guide. Most newspapers, however, set the em dash off with a single space on each side.

Most newspapers — and all that follow AP style — insert a space before and after the em dash.

### **Producing the em dash**

Many modern **word processors** will automatically insert an em dash when you type a pair of hyphens. Otherwise, look for an “insert symbol” command. If you are using a typewriter, a pair of hyphens is the closest you can get to an em dash.

Some helpful websites:

<http://www.grammarbook.com/grammar/subjectVerbAgree.asp>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/627/03/>

<http://study.com/academy/lesson/verbs-in-indicative-imperative-interrogative-conditional-subjunctive-moods.html>

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/660/01/>

[http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/images/ch07\\_tab01.pdf](http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/16/images/ch07_tab01.pdf)