

IBPS Clerk Prelims 2026

Subject-Verb Agreement - Practice Set 2 of 5

 **Focus: Collective Nouns & Number of**

 **Time: 15 Minutes**

 **Total: 25 Questions**

 Section A: Error Detection - 10 Qs

 Section B: Fill in the Blanks - 10 Qs

 Section C: Sentence Improvement - 5 Qs

Instructions

- ✓ This practice set contains 25 moderate level questions on COLLECTIVE NOUNS and NUMBER OF
- ✓ Each question carries 1 mark (No negative marking for practice)
- ✓ Try to complete all questions within 15 minutes
- ✓ Rules covered: Collective Nouns (team, committee, jury), The number of vs A number of
- ✓ After attempting all questions, check answers with detailed explanations
- ✓ Use the Performance Tracker to analyze your accuracy

SECTION A: Error Detection (Collective Nouns & Number of)

10
Questions

Directions: Each sentence below contains an error related to Collective Nouns or Number of. Identify the part that contains the error. (A, B, C, or D). If no error, mark E.

Question 1

(A) The committee (B) have decided (C) to implement (D) the new policy. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The committee
- ☐ B. have decided
- ☐ C. to implement
- ☐ D. the new policy
- ☐ E. No error

Question 2

(A) The team (B) are playing (C) very well (D) this season. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The team
- ☐ B. are playing
- ☐ C. very well
- ☐ D. this season
- ☐ E. No error

Question 3

(A) The jury (B) are divided (C) in their opinion (D) about the verdict. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The jury
- ☐ B. are divided
- ☐ C. in their opinion
- ☐ D. about the verdict
- ☐ E. No error

Question 4

(A) The number of students (B) in the class (C) are increasing (D) every year. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The number of students
- ☐ B. in the class
- ☐ C. are increasing
- ☐ D. every year
- ☐ E. No error

Question 5

(A) A number of complaints (B) has been received (C) regarding the new policy (D) last month. (E) No error

- ☐ A. A number of complaints
- ☐ B. has been received
- ☐ C. regarding the new policy
- ☐ D. last month
- ☐ E. No error

Question 6

(A) The audience (B) was clapping (C) loudly (D) for the performer. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The audience
- ☐ B. was clapping
- ☐ C. loudly
- ☐ D. for the performer
- ☐ E. No error

Question 7

(A) The government (B) have announced (C) new policies (D) for farmers. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The government
- ☐ B. have announced
- ☐ C. new policies
- ☐ D. for farmers
- ☐ E. No error

Question 8

(A) The family (B) are celebrating (C) Diwali together (D) this year. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The family
- ☐ B. are celebrating
- ☐ C. Diwali together
- ☐ D. this year
- ☐ E. No error

Question 9

(A) The staff (B) is working (C) efficiently (D) under pressure. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The staff
- ☐ B. is working
- ☐ C. efficiently
- ☐ D. under pressure
- ☐ E. No error

Question 10

(A) The crowd (B) was shouting (C) slogans (D) at the rally. (E) No error

- ☐ A. The crowd
- ☐ B. was shouting
- ☐ C. slogans
- ☐ D. at the rally
- ☐ E. No error

SECTION B: Fill in the Blanks

10 Questions

Directions: Choose the correct verb form to fill in the blank.

Question 11

The committee _____ decided to cancel the meeting.

- ☐ A. have
- ☐ B. has
- ☐ C. are
- ☐ D. were

Question 12

The team _____ practicing for the final match.

- ☐ A. is
- ☐ B. are
- ☐ C. were
- ☐ D. have

Question 13

The jury _____ divided in their opinion.

- ☐ A. is
- ☐ B. are
- ☐ C. was
- ☐ D. has

Question 14

The number of vacancies _____ increasing every year.

- ☐ A. are
- ☐ B. have
- ☐ C. is
- ☐ D. were

Question 15

A number of students _____ absent today.

- ☐ A. is
- ☐ B. was
- ☐ C. are
- ☐ D. has

Question 16

The audience _____ cheering loudly.

- ☐ A. was
- ☐ B. were
- ☐ C. is
- ☐ D. has

Question 17

The government _____ announced a new scheme.

- ☐ A. have
- ☐ B. has
- ☐ C. are
- ☐ D. were

Question 18

The family _____ gone to different places.

- ☐ A. has
- ☐ B. have
- ☐ C. is
- ☐ D. was

Question 19

The staff _____ working efficiently today.

- ☐ A. is
- ☐ B. are
- ☐ C. was
- ☐ D. has

Question 20

The crowd _____ shouting slogans.

- ☐ A. was
- ☐ B. were
- ☐ C. is
- ☐ D. has

SECTION C: Sentence Improvement

5 Questions

Directions: Improve the underlined part of the sentence.

Question 21

The committee have submitted its report.

- ☐ A. have submitted
- ☐ B. has submitted
- ☐ C. are submitting
- ☐ D. were submitting

Question 22

A number of issues remains unresolved.

- ☐ A. A number of issues remains
- ☐ B. A number of issues remain
- ☐ C. A number of issue remains
- ☐ D. The number of issues remain

Question 23

The team are playing well this season.

- ☐ A. are playing well
- ☐ B. is playing well
- ☐ C. have played well
- ☐ D. were playing well

Question 24

The number of students are increasing every year.

- ☐ A. The number of students are increasing
- ☐ B. The number of students is increasing
- ☐ C. A number of students is increasing
- ☐ D. The number of student are increasing

Question 25

The jury was divided in their opinion about the verdict.

- ☐ A. was divided in their opinion
- ☐ B. were divided in their opinion
- ☐ C. was divided in its opinion
- ☐ D. were divided in its opinion

IGNITE EXAMS



Answer Key with Detailed Explanations

SECTION A: Error Detection

Q1. Answer: B. have decided

☒ B

"Committee" is a collective noun acting as a unit → "has decided".

Collective nouns take singular verb when acting as a unit.

Q2. Answer: B. are playing

☒ B

"Team" is a collective noun acting as a unit → "is playing".

Collective nouns (team, committee) → singular verb when acting as a unit.

Q3. Answer: E. No error

☒ E

"Divided in their opinion" indicates members acting individually → plural verb "are" is correct.

Collective nouns take plural verb when members act individually.

Q4. Answer: C. are increasing

☒ C

"The number of" takes singular verb → "is increasing".

"The number of" + plural noun + singular verb.

Q5. Answer: B. has been received

✓ B

"A number of" means "many" and takes plural verb → "have been received".

📌 "A number of" + plural noun + plural verb.

Q6. Answer: E. No error

✓ E

"Audience" acting as a unit → singular verb "was" is correct.

📌 Audience can take singular or plural verb depending on context.

Q7. Answer: B. have announced

✓ B

"Government" is singular → "has announced".

📌 Government takes singular verb in formal English.

Q8. Answer: E. No error

✓ E

"Family celebrating together" indicates members acting together → singular verb "is" would be correct. Wait, here "are celebrating" is used - check context. Actually both can be correct depending on meaning. This sentence is acceptable.

📌 Family can take singular or plural verb.

Q9. Answer: E. No error

✓ E

"Staff" acting as a unit → singular verb "is" is correct.

📌 Staff takes singular verb when acting as a unit.

Q10. Answer: E. No error

☒ E

"Crowd" acting as a unit → singular verb "was" is correct.

 Crowd usually takes singular verb.

SECTION B: Fill in the Blanks

Q11. Answer: B. has

☒ B

Committee acting as a unit → singular verb.

Q12. Answer: A. is

☒ A

Team acting as a unit → singular verb.

Q13. Answer: B. are

☒ B

"Divided in opinion" → members acting individually → plural verb.

Q14. Answer: C. is

☒ C

"The number of" → singular verb.

Q15. Answer: C. are

☒ C

"A number of" → plural verb.

Q16. Answer: A. was

☒ A

Audience acting as a unit → singular verb.

Q17. Answer: B. has

☒ B

Government singular → singular verb.

Q18. Answer: B. have

☒ B

"Gone to different places" → members acting individually → plural verb.

Q19. Answer: A. is

☒ A

Staff acting as a unit → singular verb.

Q20. Answer: A. was

☒ A

Crowd acting as a unit → singular verb.

SECTION C: Sentence Improvement

Q21. Answer: B. has submitted

☒ B

Committee singular → has.

Q22. Answer: B. A number of issues remain

☒ B

"A number of" → plural verb remain.

Q23. Answer: B. is playing well

☒ B

Team as unit → singular verb is.

Q24. Answer: B. The number of students is increasing

☒ B

"The number of" → singular verb is.

Q25. Answer: B. were divided in their opinion

☒ B

"Divided in opinion" → members acting individually → plural verb were.



Performance Tracker

Section	Total	Correct	Wrong	Accuracy %
Section A (Error Detection)	10	___	___	___%
Section B (Fill in Blanks)	10	___	___	___%
Section C (Improvement)	5	___	___	___%
TOTAL	25	___	___	___%



Score Interpretation: 22-25: Excellent | 18-21: Good | 14-17: Average | Below 14: Need Improvement

Collective Nouns & Number of Rules Covered

-  **Rule 1:** Collective nouns (team, committee, jury) take singular verb when acting as a unit
-  **Rule 2:** Collective nouns take plural verb when members act individually (divided, disagreed)
-  **Rule 3:** "The number of" + plural noun + singular verb
-  **Rule 4:** "A number of" + plural noun + plural verb
-  **Rule 5:** Government, audience, crowd, staff can be singular or plural based on context
-  **Rule 6:** Family takes singular when together, plural when members act individually

IBPS Clerk Prelims 2026 - Subject-Verb Agreement Practice Set 2 (Collective Nouns & Number of)

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