Subject-Verb Agreement – Exercise 1

This handout accompanies Exercise 1 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <u>http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm</u>

Directions: In the blank, use the correct **present tense** form of the infinitive given at the beginning of each sentence.

- 1. **to have**: The cracked windshield, in addition to the torn upholstery and rusted body, ______made Ruth's old car difficult to sell.
- 2. *to be*: This week's *National Inquisitor* claims that there ______ photographs of the Loch Ness Monster eating Elvis.
- 3. *to work*: At Tito's Taco Palace ______ friends who will stuff double meat into our burritos for free.
- 4. *to crawl:* On the tables in the library ______ the many germs that have escaped in the hot breath of hardworking students.
- 5. *to be*: None of this breakfast that Lilly Mae cooked ______ fit to eat.
- 6. *to taste*: None of these chocolate-broccoli muffins ______ good, either.
- 7. *to have:* The whole red ant colony, including the queen and all of her drones, ______ swarmed over Tommy's feet, stinging his ankles.
- 8. *to make:* Fifteen gallons of chocolate milk ______ Herbert the elephant a happy pachyderm.
- 9. **to hope**: Everyone on the roller coaster, including Martha and Angie, ______ that the hot dogs, onion rings, funnel cake, and cotton candy will stay down during the twisting ride to come.
- 10. *to bother:* Neither Fred's ratty clothes nor his sullen attitude ______ Esmeralda, who lets Fred pick up the check every time they dine out.
- 11. *to hug:* That pair of jeans ______ the curves of Hannah's body as nicely as tinfoil on a baked potato.
- 12. *to annoy:* Neither the coughing muffler nor the squeaky brakes ______ Ruth as much as the broken radio in her old car.
- 13. *to get*: Florida alligators usually ______ severe indigestion after eating poodles.
- 14. *to cling:* Every cat hair, candy wrapper, and loose thread ______ to the super-charged polyester pants that Theodora loves to wear.
- 15. *to know:* Any one of Ms. Orsini's students ______ the rules that govern subject-verb agreement.

- 16. *to take:* The shine on my hardwood floors ______ abuse from the ragged toenails of Floyd, my dog.
- 17. *to have*: Neither of those students ______ a clue about the rules governing subject-verb agreement. Pity them both during the quiz.
- 18. *to make*: Patience and compassion, in addition to a wallet bulging with money, ______ everyone want Jordan as a friend.
- 19. *to require:* Statistics ______ so much homework that Michelle's poor fingers have permanent indentations from the calculator pads.
- 20. *to come*: The committee ______ from all parts of the city, so we usually have to start late because so many members get stuck in traffic.
- 21. *to believe*: The committee ______ that waiting until everyone arrives is more important than starting on time.
- 22. *to be*: When Dad is angry, there ______ fire flickering in his eyes as well as smoke escaping from his ears.
- 23. *to brighten:* When Matthew is having a bad day, old episodes of *The X-Files* always ______ his mood.
- 24. *to hit*: Each of those opera singers regularly ______ notes high enough to break glass and rupture eardrums.
- 25. *to be*: Either the fried oyster sandwich or shrimp pizza ______ the best choice for lunch at Crusty's Seafood Restaurant.

