

# Subject/verb agreement

**We was** going.

**It don't** matter.

**One (of my brothers) are** here.

The **boys (with the band) is** talented.

**Measles are** a dangerous disease.

There **is some problems** in these sentences.

**They is** all the same problem.

Proof:

(plural) (singular)  
We was going

(plural)(plural)  
We were going.

## PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

- A:** Pick a sentence from the list and read it out loud.
- B:** Hmm . . . okay. *It don't matter.*
- A:** Great. Do you see a problem with subject/verb agreement?
- B:** I do. It should be *it doesn't matter.*
- A:** Can you prove that?
- B:** Sure. *It* is singular. *Do* is plural. They don't match.
- A:** *Do?* It doesn't say *do*. It says *don't*.
- B:** And that means *do not*.
- A:** Right.
- B:** So we wouldn't say *it do*. That's a subject/verb agreement problem.
- A:** Good.
- B:** So they should both be singular. *It doesn't*.
- A:** It doesn't what?
- B:** Matter.
- A:** Ha ha. Very good.

