

### Activity Type

Matching and speaking activity, pairwork

### Language Focus

Subject-verb agreement

### Aim

To play games of draughts using subject-verb agreement.

### Preparation

Make one copy of the counters and board for each pair of students. Cut the counters out as indicated, keeping game 1 and game 2 counters separate.

### Level

Elementary

### Time

30 minutes

### Introduction

Here is a creative way to teach your students about subject-verb agreement.

### Procedure

Divide the class into pairs and give each pair a draughts board.

Give one student the game 1 singular and plural subject counters and two queens. Give the other student the game 1 verb counters and two queens.

The queens are used later in the game when a student manages to cross the board.

Tell the students to place their counters on the black squares on either side of the draughts board, leaving the queens next to the board.

Next, explain the rules for the game and add these two rules:

A singular or plural subject counter may only take a verb counter or vice versa when there is subject-verb agreement between them.

For example, the 'You' counter can take the 'ask' counter but cannot take the 'wants' counter.

When there is subject-verb agreement, the student makes a present tense sentence using the two words before their opponent's counter is taken.

When the students understand the rules, let them play the game.


If a student manages to get their counter across the board, the counter becomes a queen. The queen can move around the board freely one square at a time and has subject-verb agreement with all counters.

When the students have finished playing, give them a set of game 2 draughts and let them play again.

As an extension, students can swap counters and play more rounds.

**Singular and Plural Subject Counters**

Game 1


✂	He	I	Paul	My parrot	Cats	Dogs	
	It	Amy	They	You	People	Teachers	

Game 2

✂	Harry	The men	She	Katie	The women	We
	Girls	Her cat	The man	My friend	Boys	The students

**Verb Counters**

Game 1

✂	is	ask	drinks	goes	walk	thinks	
	are	speaks	sells	talk	read	try	

Game 2

✂	is	carry	listens	finds	eat	write
	are	get	cooks	plays	climb	studies

