VERB TENSE EXERCISES

Write the complete list of subject pronouns. After each pronoun, write the correct form of to be in the present tense next to the pronoun subject or subjects with which they agree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>singular</th>
<th>plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person</td>
<td>_____</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person</td>
<td>_____</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person</td>
<td>_____</td>
<td>________</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subject-verb agreement. Write the proper verb form.

1. Before the play begins, the audience (to find) ________ their own seats.
2. The tribe still (to meet) ________ at the old reservation, although, in the past, they (to meet) ________ at Harry’s Bar.

In the following sentences, write either present-perfect or the past-perfect verb form---whichever is appropriate.

1. After I (travel) ________ for several hours, I stopped to eat lunch.
2. After I (travel) ________ for several hours, I usually stop to eat lunch.
3. Charles already (talk) ________ to several people before he decided.
4. Charles (talk) ________ to several people, and now he is ready to decide.

Fill in the proper past-tense or past-participle form of the verb in parentheses.

1. After the party had (draw) ________ to a close, Beckford (take) ________ up residence in the Abbey.
2. As time (go) ________ by, it also (steal) ________ away his fortune.
3. He (fly) ________ into a fit of laughter. He had (beat) ________ the odds, and so he (do) ________ n’t mind that his tower had (break) ________ apart.

Above each line, change the verb forms when necessary.

SIUC Writing Center
write.siu.edu
1. I could have did a better job.
2. They have never ran that far before.
3. She has simply worn, torn, and beat us down.

**Rewrite these sentences to correct the misplaced or dangling descriptive phrases.**

1. Being a lazy and poor student, no one ever thought that Charles Darwin would ever amount to anything.
2. At the age of sixteen, Darwin’s father sent him to medical school.
3. When Thomas Jefferson became president, he greeted guests wearing plain working clothes.

**Join each of the pairs of sentences with a comma and a coordinating conjunction.**

The six coordinating conjunctions are ______   ______   _______   _______   _______  ______

1. The Tibetan people call such creatures “Yeti.” In English, the most popular name for them is “Abominable Snowmen.”
2. Their feet are at least a foot long. Their long brown hair hangs over their eyes.
3. They have pointed heads, no tail, and hairless faces. They are not very pretty.