

3. If the subject is separated from the verb by expressions such as *along with*, *together with*, *as well as*, *in addition to*, *besides*, or *not*, ignore these expressions to determine whether the subject is *singular* or *plural*.

The newsmen, *along with the politician*, (*is/are*) *expected shortly*.

– To determine the subject, *ignore* the expression *along with the politician*. Hence, *newsmen* is the *subject* and requires plural verb *are*.

Excitement, *as well as nerves*, (*is/are*) *the cause of her shaking*.

– Ignore the expression *as well as nerves*. Hence, *excitement* is the *subject* and requires singular verb *is*.