**Pronoun Agreement – Exercise 5**

**Directions:** Choose the answer that fixes an error in agreement. If no error exists, choose “No change is necessary.” Check your answers with the interactive version of the exercise.

1. If **drivers** thoughtfully used **their** turn signals, **he or she** would find that the daily commute required less honking, cursing, and fist shaking.

   A. Change **drivers** to **everyone**.
   B. Change **their** to **his or her**.
   C. Change **he or she** to **they**.
   D. No change is necessary.

2. Before students—even the adventurous Chris—bite into a cafeteria sandwich, **they** should lift the bun and check for caterpillars in the lettuce.

   A. Change **they** to **he**.
   B. Change **they** to **she**.
   C. Change **they** to **he or she**.
   D. No change is necessary.

3. When **swimmers ignore** the instructions of lifeguards, **they** might drown, get stung by jellyfish, or have **his or her** legs bitten by hungry sharks.

   A. Change **swimmers ignore** to **a swimmer ignores**.
   B. Change **they** to **he or she**.
   C. Change **his or her** to **their**.
   D. No change is necessary.
4. Not only the courtroom spectators but also Mrs. Pierre, the prosecutor, rolled their eyes in disbelief when Larry claimed that the family poodle ordered him to rob the bank.

A. Change their to his or her.
B. Change their to her.
C. Change their to its.
D. No change is necessary.

5. The class voted unanimously to write one long research paper instead of several short essays for its final grade. But once the difficult projects began, some students wished that they could change their minds.

A. Change its to their.
B. Change they to he or she.
C. Change their to his or her.
D. No change is necessary.

6. The team agreed that their strategy of fair play was ineffective against the constantly cheating Tyson High Tigers.

A. Change their to his.
B. Change their to his or her.
C. Change their to its.
D. No change is necessary.

7. Every desk wobbles because of its uneven legs. Each textbook has answers written on its pages. Perhaps the administration can reevaluate their budget and provide some necessary classroom improvements.

A. Change its uneven legs to their uneven legs.
B. Change its pages to their pages.
C. Change their to its.
D. No change is necessary.
8. Neither of my uncles believes that death is a reality for **them**. During the weekend, these two buddies spend **their time** jumping out of airplanes, never worrying that **their parachutes** might fail.

   A. Change **them** to **him**.
   B. Change **their time** to **his time**.
   C. Change **their parachutes** to **his parachute**.
   D. No change is necessary.

9. My cousins Amanda and Ralph will not park in the spot reserved for Gloria because that girl will call a tow truck to remove **his** vehicle.

   A. Change **his** to **her**.
   B. Change **his** to **his or her**.
   C. Change **his** to **their**.
   D. No change is necessary.

10. Tony refuses to eat at Bernie's Burger Emporium because **his** onions make Tony's breath stink so badly that Sophia will not kiss him for three days.

    A. Change **his** to **their**.
    B. Change **his** to **his or her**.
    C. Change **his** to **its**.
    D. No change is necessary.

11. **Biology students** should dissect a frog for Professor Wright because the extra credit points will help **him or her** improve **their** averages at the end of the semester.

    A. Change **Biology students** to **Everyone**.
    B. Change **him or her** to **them**.
    C. Change **their** to **his or her**.
    D. No change is necessary.
12. During the pep rally, not only Principal Stover but also the cheerleaders shouted as loudly as she could to inspire the basketball team to win.

A. Change she to he or she.
B. Change she to he.
C. Change she to they.
D. No change is necessary.

13. Both Diane and her cat, Big Toe Joe, take her or his afternoon naps under the green quilt on the living room sofa.

A. Change her or his to his.
B. Change her or his to its.
C. Change her or his to their.
D. No change is necessary.

14. The waitstaff take breaks only after they have served all of its guests. Management, however, wants them to take breaks at strictly scheduled times.

A. Change they have to it has.
B. Change its to their.
C. Change them to everyone.
D. No change is necessary.

15. Aunt Louisa’s barking Chihuahuas so startled poor Carolina, who was sound asleep on the living room sofa, that she threw a book at it.

A. Change it to them.
B. Change it to her.
C. Change it to him or her.
D. No change is necessary.
16. Yesterday when Amir was in his calculus class, Bryan’s snoring and Beverly’s bubble gum smacking were so loud that **they** distracted him from Professor Armour’s lecture.

   A. Change **they** to **it**.
   B. Change **they** to **she**.
   C. Change **they** to **he or she**.
   D. No change is necessary.

17. In Jack’s kitchen, each cup, plate, bowl, and glass has **their** rim chipped by careless dishwashing.

   A. Change **their** to **his**.
   B. Change **their** to **his or her**.
   C. Change **their** to **its**.
   D. No change is necessary.

18. Not only the restaurant patrons but also Isabella, the busy hostess, whirled **her** head in the direction of the kitchen when Isaiah dropped the tray of expensive champagne glasses.

   A. Change **her** to **their**.
   B. Change **her** to **his or her**.
   C. Change **her** to **his**.
   D. No change is necessary.

19. Leroy prefers an online retailer because **it will** often have special sales, and if Leroy spends enough money, **they** will ship for free. For every pair of jeans that Leroy owns, he will brag about how much money he saved **buying it** online.

   A. Change **it will** to **they will**.
   B. Change **they** to **it**.
   C. Change **buying it** to **buying them**.
   D. No change is necessary.
20. Melissa washed her new pants because they had gotten muddy in the rain. Unfortunately, the hot water shrunk the cotton fabric, so Melissa found scissors and used it to cut the pants into shorts. These shorts became her favorite pair because they showed off her beautiful legs.

A. Change they had to it had.
B. Change it to them.
C. Change they showed to it showed.
D. No change is necessary.