

Festival of Lights

What happens during India's biggest and brightest holiday?

About the Story

Learning Objective: to identify when to use *is* and *are*

Featured Skill: grammar, usage, and mechanics

Standards:

The article and its suite of support materials support this Common Core Anchor Standard: L.1

For more standards information—including TEKS—go to Scope Online.



Your Teaching Package

Find your full suite of support materials at scope.scholastic.com.

Video:

- Grammar Hack: *Is or Are?*

Audio:

- Text-to-speech

Activities to print, project, or share digitally:

- Subject-Verb Agreement Anchor Chart and Practice Activity
- In-Magazine Activity: Interactive Version

Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

1. Prepare to Read (5 minutes)

Watch the Video

- Show students **Grammar Hack: Is or Are?**, a short animated video with tips for how to keep these words straight.

Set a Purpose for Reading

- Direct students' attention to the hint box and directions on page 2 or at the top of the digital story page. Read each aloud.

2. Read and Discuss (10 minutes)

- Have students read the three boxes of text independently or with a partner, circling the correct word in each bolded word pair. Optionally, share the interactive version of this activity, which has dropdown menus. Then discuss the answers.
- In your Resources tab, find an anchor chart and skill-reinforcement activity called **Subject-Verb Agreement**. This resource is also available as a Google Slideshow for projecting.

3. Write (45 minutes)

- Have students practice using this grammar skill in context using "Festival of Lights" as a model. Working in pairs, students should research and write three short blurbs about a holiday of their choosing. Each blurb should include at least one is/are pair (or any singular/plural verb pair) from which to select the correct answer. Students should also create an answer key. Have students exchange blurbs and complete each other's activities.