ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATIONS

News, Physics, Trousers: Subject-Verb Agreement Quiz (B2)

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1	**C**	2	**A**	3	**A**	4	**B**	5	**D**	6	**A**	7	**D**	8	**B**	9	**C**	10	**D**
11	**A**	12	**B**	13	**C**	14	**B**	15	**C**										

Explanations

1. The news ___ very good today.
✔ **C) is**
News looks plural but is uncountable, so it takes a singular verb: The news is good.

2. Physics ___ my favourite subject.
✔ **A) is**
Subjects ending in -ics (physics, maths, economics) take a singular verb.

3. My trousers ___ too long.
✔ **A) are**
Trousers is always plural, like jeans, glasses and scissors: My trousers are too long.

4. Ten pounds ___ too much for a sandwich.
✔ **B) is**
An amount of money is seen as one sum, so it takes a singular verb: Ten pounds is too much.

5. Five kilometres ___ a long way to walk.
✔ **D) is**
A distance is seen as one amount: Five kilometres is a long way.

6. Which sentence is correct?
✔ **A) A pair of scissors is on the desk.**
With a pair of, the subject is pair (singular): A pair of scissors is on the desk.

7. A number of students ___ absent today.
✔ **D) are**
A number of means many, so it takes a plural verb: A number of students are absent.

8. The number of students ___ growing every year.
✔ **B) is**
The number of is about the number itself (one figure), so it takes a singular verb.

9. Two hours ___ not enough time for this exam.
✔ **C) is**
A period of time is seen as one amount: Two hours is not enough.

10. The United States ___ a federal republic.
✔ **D) is**
The United States is the name of one country, so it takes a singular verb.

11. Statistics ___ my weakest subject at university.
✔ **A) is**
As the name of a subject, statistics takes a singular verb, like physics and economics. (When it means numbers, it is plural: These statistics are surprising.)

12. Which sentence is correct?
✔ **B) The information is useful.**
Information is uncountable. It has no plural and takes a singular verb.

13. Economics ___ a difficult subject.
✔ **C) is**
Economics is a subject ending in -ics, so it takes a singular verb.

14. Every one of these rules ___ an exception.
✔ **B) has**
Every one of + plural noun takes a singular verb, because every one means each single one: Every one of these rules has an exception.

15. Half of the cake ___ gone.
✔ **C) is**
With half of, the verb agrees with the noun after of. Cake is singular here, so we use is. (Half of the cakes are gone.)

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