

Both ... and

Subjects connected by 'both ... and' take the plural conjugation.

Both Alice and Janice attended USC.

Both Jim and Peter are attending the conference in New York this weekend.

Either.....or

'Either ... or' is used in sentences in a positive sense meaning "one or the other, this or that, he or she, etc." Verb conjugation depends on the subject (singular or plural) closest to the conjugated verb.

Either Peter or the girls need to attend the course. (second subject plural)

Either Jane or Matt is going to visit next weekend. (second subject singular)

Neither ... nor

'Neither ... nor' is used in sentences in a negative sense meaning "not this one nor the other, not this nor that, not he nor she, etc.". Verb conjugation depends on the subject (singular or plural) closest to the conjugated verb.

Neither Frank nor Lilly lives in Eugene. (second subject singular)

Neither Axel nor my other friends care about their future. (second subject plural)

1. Both Tom and Peter _____ in a suburb of Chicago.

live

lives

2. Either he or they _____ going to take care of the problem.

is

are

3. Neither my aunts nor my grandmother _____ to come to the celebration.

want

wants

4. Both my father and my brother _____ to finish the project.

intend

intends

6. Either I or Jack _____ investigated the situation already.

has

have