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#### Bookwork 4

Teaching suggestions:

I especially appreciated the second and fourth teaching suggestions regarding the practice of implementing *be* into sentences. I think applying it to statements about celebrities and job descriptions are great ideas. They are both very familiar topics that people speak of frequently. Such a practical and common application will probably be more understandable and easier to remember.

I also liked the suggestion of assigning the students to complete a survey of their classmates. Requiring them to then phrase their answers and results with the correct usage and agreement of subjects, verbs, and phrases is a practical and fun practice to attempt right there in the classroom.

Exercises:

1.

A- Stan is not a great baker. (copula be)

B- Pumpkin pie tastes delicious. (copular verb other than be)

C- Another pie is baking in the oven. (auxiliary function of be)

D- The congregation gathered for their church picnic. (collective noun subject)

E- Rain can really ruin a picnic. (noncount noun subject)

F- The picnic moves under the pavilion. (third person singular present inflection)

G- The majority of church members want to stay dry. (proximity principle)

H- The elders in charge of the picnic want to start a water slide. (nonintervention principle)

I- That they enjoy crazy fun like that is very surprising. (subj verb agreement w/ clausal subj)

2. One structural reason for distinguishing the copula *be* is that it has more distinct forms with respect to person, number, and tense than any other verb in English. A second reason to distinguish *be* is that while other copular verbs can only be followed by adjective phrases, *be* is the most frequent and can also be followed by noun phrases and adverbial phrases.

3. ESL students should be aware that verbs other than *be* must agree with subjects in person and number when it comes to the present tense with third person singular form. Subject/verb agreement does not apply to other forms.

6. I would explain to this frustrated student that how people speak in person today can sometimes be different from the traditional standards of writing. I would also try to clarify that different standards can apply in different contexts, such as informal or casual communication not being as strictly bound by grammar rules as formal situations.