Pronoun Agreement — Exercise 4

Directions: In the space provided, fix the underlined error. Check your answers with the interactive version of the exercise.

__________ 1. If **every student writes** the required 6,000 words for the research essay, they will keep poor Prof. O’Brien busy grading papers until the end of the semester.

__________ 2. My weird neighbors believe that the Loch Ness Monster ate Elvis, but **he or she disagrees** that space aliens have kidnapped the brain of the President.

__________ 3. During away games, neither the basketball players nor Coach Jones can get **their** beauty sleep because the college vans bounce along on bad shock absorbers.

__________ 4. Both the living room furniture and the kitchen counter have **its surface** scarred from cigarettes that my chain-smoking Aunt Mary carelessly put down.

__________ 5. Watching the new recruits marching in the hot sun, the two drill sergeants made bets on which soldier would be the first to vomit **their** lunch during the strenuous exercise.

__________ 6. When the earthquake shook everyone awake, the family dashed outside without worrying about **their** possessions in the house.
7. After using the scissors to trim a loose thread on his new suit, Marvin left it on the couch where his mother later stabbed her thigh on the sharp points.

8. Before a person buys a car with a V-8 engine, they need to think about the frequent trips to the gas pump to fill the tank.

9. A crew member on the Enterprise learns never to make bald jokes in front of Captain Picard, for he will make them scrub all fifty transporter pads with a toothbrush.

10. All of the clowns, acrobats, animal trainers, and audience members gasped in horror when he or she saw the knife juggler accidentally slice off his own hand with a chainsaw.

11. Both of my sisters believe that Mom and Dad love our brother Fred more than her.

12. If students want to do well on the pronoun agreement quiz, he or she should have faithfully studied all of the rules governing agreement.

13. The nursing program at the college can boast that their students often have a 100 percent pass rate on the state boards.

14. Each of these NFL players will tell you about a game when they played despite a pulled muscle, injured knee, or cracked rib.

15. The city’s marine aquarium spends thousands of dollars a day to feed their animals fresh fish, crustaceans, and seaweed flown in from around the world.

16. The class members brought his or her heavy textbooks only to discover that an amiable substitute teacher was showing a movie that required no note-taking.
17. After complaining about aching backs, the class enjoyed their day of respite from old Mr. Matthews and his nonstop lecturing.

18. Not only the customers but also the cashier ran for the door when they saw the giant green Martian walk into the diner.

19. Neither the raw oysters nor the crispy fried squid tentacles appeal to Christine, who would never consider letting it touch her lips.

20. At the neighborhood grocery store, all the cashiers, shoppers, and managers held his or her breath as a circus ringmaster led a baby elephant down the snack aisle to buy peanuts.