


# Nouns in Plural

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# General Information

- Noun is a part of speech that names people, things or phenomena. E.g. Mary, table, thunder.
- Some nouns have gender: feminine, masculine and neutral. E.g. actor, actress.
- **Note:** Most of the nouns don't have gender (neutral).
- Proper nouns have case: common (nominative) and possessive. E.g. Gene – Gene's.
- Nouns can be countable or uncountable. E.g. table (countable); water (uncountable). 

# General Information

- Nouns can be proper or common.
- Proper: Mary, Rosemead, William, etc.
- Common: text, thunder, information, table, etc.
- All countable nouns have number: singular or plural. **E.g. class – classes.**

# Forming the Plural (most nouns)

- To form the plural form of a noun, just add –s.
- It is pronounced [z] after vowels and voiced consonants: **room – rooms, shoe – shoes, chair – chairs.**
- It is pronounced [s] after voiceless consonants: **book – books, map – maps, rat – rats, mouth – mouths, etc.**



# Nouns Ending in

**s, ss, sh, ch, ge, ce, x, z**

- Nouns that end in s, ss, sh, ch, ge, ce, x, z form their plurals by adding –es. The ending is pronounced [iz].
- **Note:** If the noun ends in silent –e, the plurals are formed by adding –s.
- E.g. class – classes, box- boxes, dish – dishes, inch – inches, horse – horses, place – places, prize – prizes, judge – judges.



# Nouns That End in -y

- If a noun ends in –y with a preceding consonant, in plural y changes to i and –es is added. Eg. City – cities, army – armies, factory – factories, etc.
- However, if a vowel precedes the y, the plural is formed just by adding –s. E.g. boy – boys, toy – toys, key – keys, guy – guys, etc.



# Nouns That End in -o

- Nouns ending in – o form plural forms by adding –es.
- Example: potatoes, tomatoes, heroes.
- **Exceptions:** photo – photos, piano – pianos; and words of foreign origin: taco – tacos, burrito – burritos.

# Nouns Ending in – f (-fe)

- To form the plural of a noun that ends in f (fe), change f to v and add –es.
- Example: leaf – leaves, life – lives, wife – wives, half – halves, wolf – wolves.
- **Exceptions:** chief – chiefs, handkerchief – handkerchiefs, roof – roofs, proof – proofs, safe – safes.



# Irregular Plurals

- Memorize the following:

- Man – men
- Woman – women
- Child – children
- Foot – feet

- Ox – oxen
- Tooth – teeth
- Goose – geese
- Mouse – mice
- Louse – lice

# Irregular Plurals

- Words that come to the English language from Latin or Greek preserve the plural forms that they have in those languages:

- Datum – data
- Addendum – addenda
- Erratum – errata
- Syllabus – syllabi
- Cactus - cacti

- Bacterium – bacteria
- Memorandum-memoranda
- Phenomenon – phenomena
- Crisis – crises
- Thesis – theses
- Criterion – criteria
- Basis – bases
- Parenthesis – parentheses



# Nouns That Have the Same Singular and Plural Forms:

- Sheep – sheep
- Deer – deer
- Works – works (factory, plant)
- Means – means (tool, method)

# Plurals of Complex and Compound Nouns

- In complex nouns that are spelled together, the last constituent of the word forms the plural.
- E.g. schoolboy – schoolboys , mailman – mailmen.
- In hyphenated complex nouns, the principal part of the word forms the plural: mother-in-law – mothers-in-law, commander-in-chief – commanders-in-chief, passer-by – passers-by.
- In compound nouns, both parts become plural:
- Woman doctor – women doctors, man-servant – men-servants.



# Nouns That Are Used Only in Singular

- Uncountable nouns are usually used only in singular, such as: **advice, news, information, money, hair.**
- Nouns fruit and fish are usually used in singular even if they mean more than one fruit or fish. **E.g. I went to the market and bought two fish.**
- However, if you mean different kinds of fruit or fish, these nouns can be used in plural. **E.g. There are apples, bananas, plums, and other fruits on the table.**



# Plurals of Uncountable Nouns

- Some uncountable nouns can be used in plural, but in plural, they change the meaning.
- There is a lot of water in the ocean.
- Our cruise ship entered the waters of the Pacific Ocean. (The word “waters” here means the area in the ocean.)

# Nouns That Are Always Plural

- Some nouns have plural meaning, such as people or police. E.g Police are on the way.
- **Note:** Peoples of many countries are represented in the UN. (In this case, the word “peoples” means nations, and it also can be used in singular).
- Nouns that are used only in plural are: goods, wages, arms, stairs, proceeds, contents, glasses, trousers, pants, lyrics,

# Which Is Correct?

- I cooked mashed potato for dinner.
- I cooked mashed potatoes for dinner.
- I bought three pounds of tomato at the market.
- I bought three pounds of tomatoes at the market.



# Nouns That Are Usually Plural

- Some nouns are usually used in plural: tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, onions, oats, etc.
- So, unless you mean only one tomato, you should say, “I bought three pounds of tomatoes at the market.”

# Done!

The dictation and the quiz are  
coming soon.