

Read the following sentences carefully :

1. The **boy** is writing with a **pen**.
2. The **cow** is grazing in the field.
3. **He** is talking to **me**.
4. **She** is very happy.

In sentences 1 and 2, the nouns **boy**, **pen** and **cow** refer to one person, thing or animal.

In sentences 3 and 4, the pronouns **he**, **me** and **she** refer to one person.

These nouns and pronouns are said to be in **Singular Number**.

The word (noun or pronoun) which stands for one person, animal, thing or place is said to be in **Singular Number**.

Read the following :

1. **Boys** are writing with **pens**.
2. **Cows** are grazing in the field.
3. **They** are talking to **us**.
4. **We** are sorry for our mistake.

In sentences 1 and 2, the nouns **boys**, **pens** and **cows** refer to more than one person, thing or animal.

In sentences 3 and 4, the pronouns **they**, **us**, **we** and **our** refer to more than one person.

These nouns and pronouns are said to be in **Plural Number**.

Thus, there are two numbers in English :

1. Singular
2. Plural

Formation of Plural from Singular Nouns :

1. Most Singular Nouns are made Plural Nouns by adding 's' to them :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Balloon	Balloons	House	Houses	Son	Sons
Cow	Cows	Horse	Horses	Tree	Trees
Cat	Cats	Kite	Kites	Table	Tables
Camel	Camels	King	Kings	Umbrella	Umbrellas
Dog	Dogs	Lad	Lads	Uncle	Uncles
Apple	Apples	Elephant	Elephants	Plate	Plates
Bee	Bees	Fan	Fans	Prince	Princes
Book	Books	Face	Faces	Rat	Rats
Boy	Boys	Girl	Girls	Shoe	Shoes

2. Singular Nouns ending with 's', 'ss', 'ch', 'sh' or 'x' are made Plural Nouns by adding 'es' to them :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Ash	Ashes	Brush	Brushes	Grass	Grasses
Ass	Asses	Bench	Benches	Glass	Glasses
Bus	Buses	Dish	Dishes	Tax	Taxes

Singular	Plural
Batch	Batches
Branch	Branches
Box	Boxes

Singular	Plural
Fox	Foxes
Church	Churches
Class	Classes

Singular	Plural
Watch	Watches
Loss	Losses
Match	Matches

Exceptions :

Monarch	Manarchs
---------	----------

Stomach	Stomachs
---------	----------

3. Singular Nouns ending with 'y' but with a consonant before them, are made plural nouns by changing 'y' to 'ies' :

Singular	Plural
City	Cities
Copy	Copies
Army	Armies
Baby	Babies
Cherry	Cherries

Singular	Plural
Liy	Lilies
Lady	Ladies
Cry	Cries
Country	Countries
Family	Families

Singular	Plural
Worry	Worries
Duty	Duties
Reply	Replies
Sky	Skies
Story	Stories

4. Singular Nouns ending with 'y' or 'w' with a vowel before them are made Plural Nouns by adding 's' to them :

Singular	Plural
Jaw	Jaws
Cow	Cows
Monkey	Monkeys

Singular	Plural
Key	Keys
Chimney	Chimneys
Joy	Joys

Singular	Plural
Valley	Valleys
Toy	Toys
Ray	Rays

5. Singular Nouns ending with 'o' with a consonant before them are made Plural Nouns by adding 'es' to them :

Singular	Plural
Echo	Echoes
Buffalo	Buffaloes
Cargo	Cargoes

Singular	Plural
Mango	Mangoes
Hero	Heroes
Mosquito	Mosquitoes

Singular	Plural
Tomato	Tomatoes
Negro	Negroes
Potato	Potatoes

Exceptions :

Bamboos	Bamboos
---------	---------

Photo	Photos
-------	--------

Piano	Pianos
-------	--------

6. Singular Nouns ending with 'f' or 'fe' are made Plural Nouns by changing 'f' or 'fe' into 'ves' :

Singular	Plural
Leaf	Leaves
Calf	Calves
Shelf	Shelves

Singular	Plural
Wife	Wives
Thief	Thieves
Knife	Knives

Singular	Plural
Life	Lives
Half	Halves
Self	Selves

Exceptions :

Gulf	Gulfs
Hoof	Hoofs
Grief	Griefs

Dwarf	Dwarfs
Roof	Roofs

Chief	Chiefs
Proof	Proofs



7. Some Singular Nouns are made Plural Nouns by changing an inside vowel in them :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Mouse	Mice	Goose	Geese	Tooth	Teeth
Dormouse	Dormice	Man	Men	Foot	Feet
Louse	Lice	Woman	Women		

8. Some Singular Nouns are made Plural Nouns by adding 'en' to them :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Child	Children	Ox	Oxen	Brother	Brethren

9. Some Singular Nouns have the same Plural forms :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Cannon	Cannon	Hundred	Hundred	Deer	Deer
Sheep	Sheep	Dozen	Dozen	Thousand	Thousand

10. Singular Compound Nouns are made Plurals by changing the main word into Plural :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Passer-by	Passers-by	Stepson	Stepsons
Commander-in-chief	Commanders-in-chief	Governor-general	Governor-generals
Man-servant	Men-servant	Looker-on	Lookers-on
Brother-in-law	Brothers-in-law	Father-in-law	Fathers-in-law
Sister-in-law	Sisters-in-law	Maid-servant	Maid-servants
Mother-in-law	Mothers-in-law	Gentleman	Gentlemen
Fisherman	Fishermen	Washerman	Washermen

11. Some Nouns always remain Singular :

Furniture, scenery, news, physics, innings, electronics.

12. Some Nouns always remain Plural :

Clothes, cattle, people, poultry, scissors, trousers, spectaches, thanks

13. Some Singular Pronouns have the following Plurals forms :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
I	We	You	You	He	They
Her	Them	She	They	This	These
It	They	That	Those	Me	Us
Him	Them				

14. Some Singular Verbs have the following Plural forms :

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
Is	Are	Am	Are	Was	Were
Has	Have				





Time To Do

A. Change the Number of the following Nouns/ Pronouns :

- | | | | |
|------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 1. Armies | _____ | 2. Watch | _____ |
| 3. Lady | _____ | 4. Volcanoes | _____ |
| 5. Hoofs | _____ | 6. Tooth | _____ |
| 7. Hundred | _____ | 8. Cannon | _____ |
| 9. They | _____ | 10. Gulfs | _____ |
| 11. Those | _____ | 12. Use | _____ |
| 13. Baby | _____ | 14. Deer | _____ |
| 15. Oxen | _____ | 16. Loaf | _____ |
| 17. Roofs | _____ | 18. Mice | _____ |
| 19. Safes | _____ | 20. Women | _____ |

B. Correct and rewrite the following sentences :

1. This poultry belongs to my brother.
2. I have written two poetries.
3. My trouser is new.
4. He did me many mischiefs.
5. I have no breads to eat.
6. Some cattle is grazing in the field.
7. The family have left the house.
8. He has sold his all furnitures.
9. He is a five years old boy.
10. Civics are the interesting subject.
11. The jury was divided in the opinions.
12. Sixty miles are a long distances to travel on Foot.
13. Tom has a hundred rupees note.
14. This news are wrong.
15. I gave him my scissor for use.

C. Give the plural form of the following words :

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. son-in-law | _____ | 2. woman | _____ |
| 3. calf | _____ | 4. roof | _____ |
| 5. hoof | _____ | 6. bench | _____ |
| 7. class | _____ | 8. mouse | _____ |
| 9. foot | _____ | 10. tooth | _____ |
| 11. baby | _____ | 12. bush | _____ |
| 13. key | _____ | 14. lady | _____ |
| 15. mango | _____ | 16. orange | _____ |
| 17. knife | _____ | 18. sheep | _____ |
| 19. deer | _____ | 20. step-mother | _____ |

