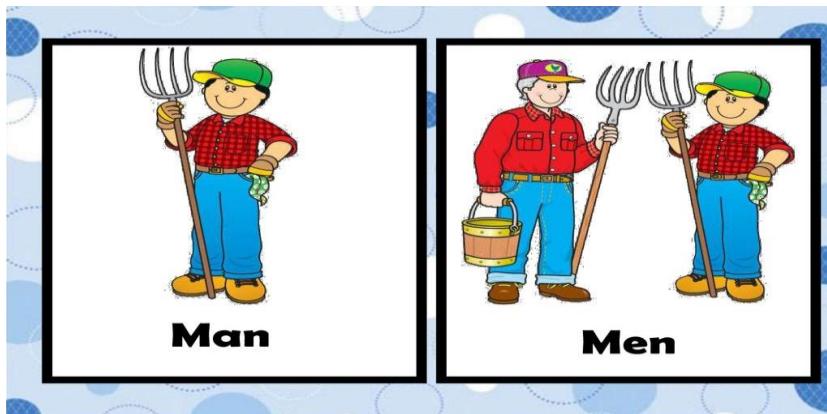


Chapter- 2

Regular and irregular plurals

STUDY NOTES



❖ When a noun refers to only one person, animal, place or object, it is called a singular noun.

Example –

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1. The **boy** had a **baseball** in his hand.
2. My **horse** prefers to wear an English **saddle**.
3. That **cat** never seems to tire of jumping in and out of the **box**.
4. **You** stole my **idea** and didn't give **me** any credit.
5. Your **mom** is going to be upset about that broken **lamp**.

❖ When a noun refers to more than one person , animal, place or thing , it is called a plural noun.

Example –

1. The **boys** were throwing **baseballs** back and forth between **bases**.
2. Our **horses** are much happier wearing lightweight English **saddles**.

3. Those **cats** never seem to tire of chasing one another in and out of those **boxes**.
4. You stole my **ideas** and didn't give me any credit.
5. Our **moms** are going to be upset that **we** stayed out all night going to **parties**.

Answerkey

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Q1. Underline the singular nouns and circle the plural nouns in the following paragraph.

Vikramaditya was the king of Kuntala. He had three queens. One day, an old sage came to visit them. He had brought them some presents and asked each one to choose what she wanted. The sage's gifts were six mangoes, a sword, an old book, and some pearls.

Plural forms of the nouns are usually made by adding -s or -es to the singular nouns. The plural nouns that are formed by following this rule are known regular plurals.

Rules of forming regular plurals –

- For the most nouns, add -s at the end of the singular form to get their plural form.

Example –

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
bird	birds	fork	forks
broom	brooms	game	games
camel	camels	lamb	lambs
desk	desks	nest	nests
doll	dolls	pen	pens
egg	eggs	photo	photos
flower	flowers	shirt	shirts

- For singular nouns that end in o, s, x, ch or sh add -es at the end of the singular form to get their plural form.

Example –

Singular	Plural
Tomato	Tomatoes
Gas	Gases
Church	Churches
wish	wishes

- For the nouns that end in a consonant +y, the plural is formed by replacing the letter y with -ies.

Example –

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
army	armies	baby	babies
city	cities	country	countries
duty	duties	fly	flies
family	families	lady	ladies
pony	ponies	reply	replies
penny	pennies	spy	spies
daisy	daisies	gallery	galleries

- For nouns that end in f or fe, the plural is formed by replacing f or fe with v and adding -es to it.

Example –

Singular	Plural
calf	Calves
wife	Wives
Knife	knives

Q2. Change these singular nouns into their plural forms.

- A) Loaf – loaves
- B) Family – families
- C) Book – books
- D) City – cities
- E) Pouch – pouches
- F) Class –classes
- G) Prince – princes
- H) Hero – heroes

Some nouns do not follow any of the above rules while changing to their plural forms. Such plural nouns are called irregular plurals.

Irregular plurals are formed in two ways.

- The plural form of some nouns is a completely different word from their singular form.

Singular	Plural
Man	Men
Woman	Women
Ox	Oxen
Mouse	Mice

- The plural form of some nouns are the same as the singular form.

Example –

Singular	Plural
Deer	Deer
Sheep	Sheep
Aircraft	Aircraft
Furniture	Furniture
hair	Hair

Q3. Complete the cross word with the plural forms of the singular nouns given as hints.

Across

2. loaves

4. dresses

6. candies

7. potatoes

Down

1. geese

3. shelves

5. children

Q4. Underline the plural nouns in the sentences given below.

- The farmer uses two oxen to pull his cart.
- The trees were full of ripe berries.
- Keep the tomatoes in the kitchen.
- The princess saw two elves playing in the garden.
- Amit found three keys on his bed.
- There are thousands of books in the library.
- Our dog gave birth to five puppies.

Q5. Correct the plural nouns in the following sentences. One is done for you.

- a) I saw three **women** rowing a boat.
- b) I must visit a dentist. Two of my **teeth** hurt.
- c) My parents bought a lot of **furniture** when we moved into our new house.
- d) I saw the shepherd sharing wool from four **sheep**.
- e) There are a lot of **mice** in our house.
- f) The **information** given in this book is very useful.
- g) I saw two **deer** running across the field.

