

**SOUTHERN PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
English Language Improvement Activities

**Topic - Plural Nouns**

**Grades 7, 8, 9, 10, 11**

All the nouns have their plural forms and when we write a sentence the verb has to be changed according to the noun.

Ex.1. a cat drinks milk (singular noun)

Cats drink milk. (plural noun)

There are different ways to form the plural form of nouns.

- Most nouns form their plural form by adding “s” to the singular form

Ex: a cat- cats

A tree-trees

- When the singular noun ends with “s”, “sh”, “ch”, “x” its plural form is made by adding “es”

Ex: a bus-busses

A box-boxes

- Some singular nouns ending with “o” also form the plural form by adding “es”

Ex: a hero-heroes

a mango-mangoes

\*There are some exceptions:

a radio-radios

a studio-studios

- When the last letter of the singular noun is ‘y’ and the letter before it is a consonant, its plural is formed by changing ‘y’ to ‘ies’

Ex: a lady- ladies

a city-cities

- Several nouns ending with “f” or “fe” form their plural by dropping them and adding “ves”

Ex: a life-lives

a leaf-leaves

\*There are some exceptions:

a chief-chiefs

a roof-roofs

- A few nouns form their plural by changing the inside vowel.

Ex: a man-men

a foot-feet

- Some nouns have different singular and plural forms

Ex: a child-children

an ox-oxen

Now complete the table and practise

Singular noun	Plural noun
A book	
A match	
A potato	
A photo	
A baby	
A wolf	
A mouse	
A tooth	
A woman	
A box	

Give the plural forms of the words within brackets.

1. I clean my..... (foot) before going to bed.
2. When the cat is away the..... (mouse) are at play.
3. The .....(child) make kites.
4. I have three .....(puppy) in the kennel.
5. We must brush our.....(tooth) twice a day.
6. The the.....(leaf) are still green.
7. There are a lot of .....(calf) in the farm.
8. All the .....(baby) cry while immunising.
9. Please bind all the .....(appendix) to the file.
10. Attention please! The hard wind can destroy your.....(house).

Change the following sentences into the plural form

1. My foot is wet - My feet are wet.
2. There is an egg in the refrigerator - .....
3. The monkey is chattering - .....
4. There is a fish in my tank - .....
5. Gold watch is expensive - .....
6. This lady is poor - .....
7. I need a book - .....
8. Where is your photo - .....
9. I met a dwarf at the town - .....
10. I planted a new tree in my garden - .....

Underline the correct word within brackets

1. A (man, men) is working in the site.
2. The (wife, wives) of the soldiers are sad.
3. I saw a herd of (cow, cows) destroying the farm.
4. Which is your favourite (subject, subjects)?
5. Big (city, cities) have good facilities.
6. Some (ox, oxen) attack people.
7. (People, peoples) of different nationalities live in Sri Lanka.

8. Can I know all the (criteria, criterion) for marking?
9. (Bacteria, bacterium) make different diseases.
10. My (sister-in-law, sisters-in-law) live in Nugegoda.

English & Foreign Languages Unit, Southern Provincial Department of Education, Galle.