Kirkuk Technical Institute
Dept of Chemical Industries

English

Language

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Singular and Plural

In English, nouns can be singular or plural, depending on whether they refer to one item or more than one. The way to form plurals in English can vary depending on the noun's ending. Here are some general rules for forming singular and plural nouns:

1. Regular Plurals: - Most nouns form their plurals by adding "-s" to the end of the singular form.

tree	trees
garden	gardens
flower	flowers
cat	cats
elephant	elephants
lion	lions
book	books
fan	fans
door	doors
chair	chairs

2. **Plurals Ending in -s, -x, -z, -sh, or -ch: -** Nouns ending in these sounds typically add "-es" to form the plural.

gas	gases
bus	buses
dress	dresses
class	classes
box	boxes
wish	wishes
match	matches
watch	watches

3. **Plurals Ending in -y**: - If a noun ends in a consonant and "y," you usually change the "y" to "ies" to form the plural.

(a – e – i – o – u)

story	stories
army	armies
baby	babies
country	countries
fly	flies
sky	skies
try	tries
lady	ladies

4. **Plurals Ending in -f or -fe**: - Nouns ending in "-f" or "-fe" often change the ending to "-ves" in the plural.

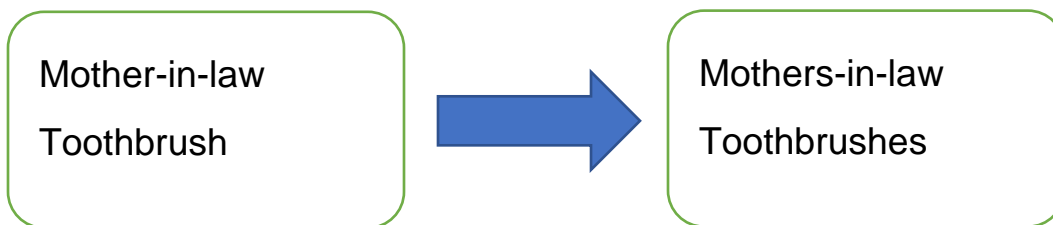|	
wife	wives
thief	thieves
shelf	shelves
knife	knives
leaf	leaves
wolf	wolves

5. **Irregular Plurals**: - Some nouns have irregular plural forms that don't follow the above rules. For example:

man	men
woman	women
child	children
ox	oxen
foot	feet
tooth	teeth
mouse	mice

6. **No Change**: - Some nouns have the same form in both singular and plural.
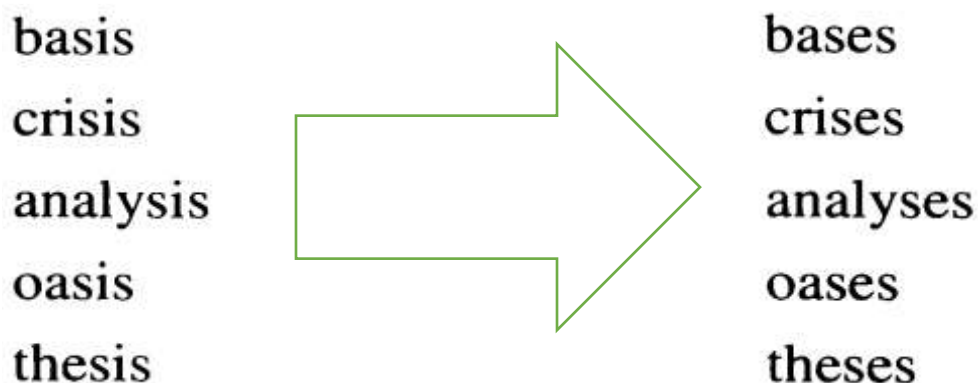
Deer

sheep

news

means

7. **Compound Nouns**: - The plural form of compound nouns can vary. Sometimes the first word changes to form the plural, sometimes the second word, and sometimes both.

Mother-in-law

Toothbrush

→

Mothers-in-law

Toothbrushes

8. **Nouns with No Singular Form**: - Some nouns only exist in the plural form because they represent a pair or a set.

goods

trousers

scissors

arms

clothes

archives

ethics

9. **Plurals Ending in -sis**: - Nouns ending in "-sis" often change the ending to "-ses" in the plural.

basis

crisis

analysis

oasis

thesis

→

bases

crises

analyses

oases

theses

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Second lecture

The Articles

Definite and indefinite articles, "a," "an," and "the," are used in English to specify and clarify nouns (people, places, things, or ideas). Here's a breakdown of their definitions and uses:

1. A & An Indefinite: - Indefinite articles are used when referring to non-specific or generic items. They indicate that the noun is one of many possible items, not a particular one.

**A : ** is used before words that begin with consonant sounds.

Examples:

"I saw a car on the street." (Here, "car" starts with a consonant sound, so we use "a.")

**An : ** is used before words that begin with vowel sounds. (a – e – i – o – u)

Examples:

"She's reading an interesting book." (Here, "interesting" starts with a vowel sound, so we use "an.")

a beautiful lady a fast train an unusual event a polite child a black coat	He is **an Egyptian**. She is **an American**. He is **an Italian**. She is **an engineer**. He is **a doctor**. She is **a translator**.	a couple a dozen a hundred a thousand a million
four pounds a kilo sixty kilometers an hour three times a day	a cold a headache a toothache	What a hot weather ! What a fast car ! What a cute girl !

2. **The" (Definite Article): **

"The" is used before specific nouns that the speaker and listener are both aware of or can identify.

Examples:

"I saw the car you were talking about." (Here, both the speaker and listener know which car is being referred to.)

"Please pass the salt." (Assuming there's only one salt container at the table, "the" is used to specify it.)

The definite article "the" is used when you are referring to a particular or specific item or when both parties in the conversation are clear about the item in question.

<mark>Note: -</mark>

It's important to note that English articles are not used with proper nouns (specific names of people, places, etc.) or with non-countable nouns (abstract concepts, substances, etc.). For example, you wouldn't say "the John" or "a water." Additionally, articles may not be used when talking about general concepts or when making general statements. For example, "Cats are pets" does not require an article because it's a general statement about all cats.

I saw a man that looks like you in the street. The man was wearing a blue shirt.	The rich should help the poor get over the difficulties of life .	The head The heart The lungs
The morning The evening The past The present The future	The Red Sea The Indian Ocean The River Nile The Arabian Gulf	The north The south The east The west

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Third lecture

Prepositions

Prepositions are words that show the relationship between a noun (or pronoun) and other words in a sentence.

"In," "on," "at," and "by" are all prepositions that are used to indicate various relationships in time, location, or method. Here's a brief explanation of each:

1. **In:**

   - Used to indicate a general period of time: "She will arrive in an hour."

   - Used to specify a location within a larger area: "He lives in New York."

   - Used to describe being enclosed or surrounded by something: "The keys are in the drawer."

2. **On:**

   - Used to indicate a specific day or date: "We will meet on Monday."

   - Used to specify a surface: "The book is on the table."

   - Used to describe being in contact with something: "My Mother put her hand on my shoulder."

3. **At:**

   - Used to denote a specific point in time: "The meeting is at 9 o'clock."

   - Used to specify a particular place or location: "I am waiting for you at the bus stop."

   - Used to describe a certain condition or state: "He is good at mathematics."

4. **By:**

   - Used to indicate a deadline or time limit: "Please submit your report by Friday."

   - Used to express a method or means: "She traveled by train."

   - Used to indicate the actor or doer: "The book was written by Mark Twain."

These prepositions often have overlapping uses and can sometimes be confusing for English learners.

Homework Assignment: Prepositions "In," "On," "At," and "By"

1. My birthday is ___ March 15th.

2. We have a meeting scheduled ___ 2:00 PM.

3. The cat is sleeping ___ the bed.

4. The concert will start ___ 7:30 PM.

5. She will arrive ___ the airport at 6:00 AM.

6. We like to go for walks ___ the evening.

7. The package should arrive ___ Friday.

8. Please put your shoes ___ the shoe rack.

9. The train to London leaves ___ platform 3.

10. He finished his homework ___ 9:00 PM.