

STUDY NOTES

(1) THE NOUNS DWARF, HOOF, SCARF AND WHARF TAKE EITHER -S OR -VES IN THE PLURAL.

Scarf	Scarfs	Or	scarves
Hoof	Hoofs	Or	hooves
Dwarf	Dwarfs	Or	dwarves
Wharf	Wharfs	Or	wharves

(2) OTHER NOUN WORDS END IN -F OR -FE ADD -S; AS,

Proof	proofs
Safe	safes
Chief	chiefs
Handkerchief	handkerchiefs
Cliff	Cliffs
Gulf	Gulfs

(3). A FEW NOUNS FORM THEIR PLURAL BY CHANGING THE INSIDE VOWEL OF THE SINGULAR; AS,

Woman	Women
Foot	Feet
Man	Men
Tooth	Teeth
Louse	Lice
Goose	Geese
Mouse	Mice

ALWAYS PLURAL NOUNS:

1. SOME PLURAL NOUNS WHICH REFER TO CLOTHES AND OTHER THINGS THAT PEOPLE WEAR IN GENERAL SENSE THEY ARE USED IN PLURAL FORM WITH NO ARTICLE:

Bermudas, braces, briefs, cords, corduroys, culottes, dungarees, flannels, flares, galoshes, glasses, jeans, jodhpurs, knickerbockers, knickers, leggings, overalls, panties, pants, pajamas, shorts, slacks, specs, spectacles, sunglasses, tights, trousers, trunks, underpants.

2. PLURAL NOUNS WHICH REFER TO TOOLS AND OTHER THINGS THAT PEOPLE USE:

Binoculars, clippers, compasses, dividers, field-glasses, nutcrackers, pincers, pliers, scales, scissors, secateurs, shears, tongs, tweezers

3. OTHER NOUNS WHICH ARE ALWAYS PLURAL IN FORM:

Belongings, outskirts, clothes, premises (buildings), congratulations, savings (money), earnings, stairs, goods, surroundings, likes/dislikes, thanks, arms (weapons, arrears, congratulations, contents, costs (money that the loser of a legal action has to pay), credentials, customs (e-g. at an airport), images (compensation awarded to the winner of a legal action), directions (instructions), dregs, essentials, expenses (money that people spend while doing their work).greens (vegetables), grounds, headquarters, lodgings, looks (appearance),

manners (behavior) morals, odds, pains (effort), particulars (details), proceeds, prospects, provisions Good supplies), qualifications, qualms, quarters (lodgings), refreshments, regards (good wishes), remains, scales (as in 'bathroom scales'), shortcomings (faults or weaknesses), supplies, surroundings, talks, travels, the tropics (the hottest part of the world), underpants, valuables, whereabouts etc.

EXAMPLES:

1. Please ensure that you take all your *belonging / ✓ **belongings** with you as you leave the aircraft.
2. They live on the *outskir / ✓ **outskirts** of Frankfurt, almost in the countryside.
3. My *cloth / ✓ **clothes** are wet.
4. I'll have to go *upstair / ✓ **upstairs** and change.
5. She spent all her *saving / ✓ **savings** on a trip to South America.
6. My tweezers *is / ✓ **are** broken.
7. Her scissors *was / ✓ **were** stolen.
8. The glasses *has / ✓ **have** slipped down his nose again.
9. And as a matter of fact its *custom / ✓ **customs** weren't so silly as you suppose.
10. Mr. Chips began to recognize that the *odd / ✓ **odds** were heavily against him.
11. Mr. Chips realized the inadequacy of his *qualification / ✓ **qualifications**.

NOTE 1: THESE NOUNS ARE UNCOUNTABLE BECAUSE WE CANNOT USE NUMBERS WITH THEM. HOWEVER:

1. * I bought two-trousers.
✓ I bought two pairs of trousers.
2. * We bought a new pants.
✓ We bought a new pair of pants.
3. * They're advertising two glasses for the price of one.
✓ They're advertising two pairs of glasses for the price of one.

NOTE 2: NUMBERS LIKE HUNDREDS, THOUSANDS, MILLIONS, DOZENS, ETC. WHEN USED AS NOUNS, TAKE 'S' AND ARE USED WITH PLURAL VERBS.

1. There are *dozen / ✓ **dozens** of different dyes to choose from.
2. I have *thousand / ✓ **thousands** of faces in my mind.
3. Having all these *hundred / ✓ **hundreds** of boys cooped up here is really an unnatural Arrangement.

NON COUNT NOUNS (SINGULAR NOUN - SINGULAR VERB)

Some nouns refer to general things such as qualities, substances, processes, and topics rather than to individual items or events. These nouns have only one form, are not used with numbers and are not usually used with the articles 'the', 'a', or 'an'

Whole Groups Made up Similar items:

Jewelry furniture garbage junk, baggage luggage, clothing, machinery, equipment, mail,
food, fruit, makeup money/cash/change, postage, scenery, stuff, traffic, accommodation, information, etc.

1. **Fluids:** water, coffee, tea, milk, oil, soup, gasoline, blood, etc
2. **Solids:** ice, bread, butter, cheese, meat, gold, iron, silver, glass, paper, wood, cotton, wool, etc.
3. **Gases:** steam, air, oxygen, nitrogen, smoke, smog, pollution, etc.

- 4. Particles:** rice, chalk, corn, dirt, dust, four, grass, hair, pepper, salt, sand, sugar, wheat, etc.
- 5. Abstractions:** -beauty, confidence, courage, education, enjoyment, fun. happiness. health. help. honesty, hospitality., importance, intelligence, justice, knowledge, laughter. luck. music. patience, uh violence. wealth. etc. advice, information, news, evidence. proof. etc.-time, space, energy, etc. homework, work. etc.-grammar, slang. vocabulary, etc.
- 6. Languages:** Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish. etc.
- 7. Fields of Study:** chemistry, engineering history, literature, mathematics. Psychology, etc.
- 8. Recreation:** baseball, soccer, tennis, chess. bridge, poker, etc.
- 9. Activities:** driving, studying, swimming, traveling, walking (and other gerunds)
- 10. Natural Phenomena:** weather; dew, fog, hail, heat, humidity, lightning. rain, sleet, snow, thunder, wind, darkness, light, sunshine, electricity. fire, gravity, etc.

THESE NOUNS ARE NOT USED WITH A/AN OR NUMBERS AND ARE NOT USED IN THE PLURAL FORM AND TAKE SINGULAR VERB:

EXAMPLES:

- i. (i) Workers at the factory wear protective *clothings / ✓ **clothing**.
- ii. (ii) There * were / ✓ **was** garbage strewn around everywhere.
- iii. (iii) I don't believe in all that *stuffs / ✓ **stuff** about ghosts
- iv. (iv) There *are / ✓ **is** always a lot of traffic in Lahore at this time of day
- v. (v) We're going to get ✓ **new furniture** / *a-new-furniture for the living room
- vi. Did you play *soccers / ✓ **soccer** at school?
- vii. ✓ **Fear** / *Fears begins to move slowly into their hearts.
- viii. *The Thunder / ✓ **Thunder** crashed in the sky.
- ix. *The Blood / ✓ **Blood** was pouring out of a cut on her head,
- x. * A dried milk / ✓ **Dried milk** keeps better than fluid milk.
- xi. He's making ✓ **good progress** / *a good progress in math.
- xii. She was absolutely dripping with *golds / ✓ **gold**.
- xiii. They showed *a great courage / ✓ **great courage**.
- xiv. The changing seasons mark the passing of the *times / ✓ **time**.
- xv. It's an old-fashioned shop, crowded with *stuffs / ✓ **stuff** not usually found in barber shops.
- xvi. We should not throw * garbage / ✓ **garbage** in the streets.
- xvii. The good soul, Mr. Hubert, choked with indignation and *fears/ ✓ **fear**.
- xviii. And very magnificent *clothings / ✓ **clothing** it was.

Exception:

**For something that we perceive as a mass, we use the uncountable form:
For things that we perceive as individual units, we use the countable form:**

- (i) There's a hair in my soup.
- (ii) He has three hairs on his shoulder.
- (iii) Della knew her hairs/hair was more beautiful than any queen's jewels and gifts.
- (iv) Maybe the hair/hairs of my head could be counted, she said.

Meanings of some nouns change when used in plural.

Airs, woods, goods, etc.

(v) Then 1 ran off the road and into the *wood / ✓woods.

(vi) I hate the way she puts on airs

(vii) We have *good / ✓goods of all kinds.

NON COUNT NOUN AS COUNT NOUN (SINGULAR/PLURAL NOUN SINGULAR/PLURAL VERB)

Some non-count nouns can be made countable. To refer to one or more quantities of an uncountable noun, expressions such as:

a piece of, a bit of, a drop of, a glass of; an item of, a sheet of, a slice of, packet of a grain of, a loaf of, or words for containers and measures must be used:

(i) I bought you a chocolate.*

I bought you a bar of chocolate.✓

(ii) There's a milk-in the-fridge for you.*

There`s a liter of milk in the fridge for you.✓

(iii) Think we'll need five element for the patio.*

I think we'll need five bags of element for the patio.✓

(iv) His -lawyer produced an-important new evidence.*

His lawyer produced a piece of important new evidence.✓

(v) He-bought a very-expensive furniture -for-his-new-apartment.*

He bought a very expensive piece of furniture for his new apartment.✓

(vi) Maggie always has some exiting news when-she-comes to see us.*

Maggie always has some exciting bits of news when she comes to see us.✓

(vii) I had come out into the cold and come down alone to the river to get rid of poetries.*

(viii) I had come out into the cold and come down alone to the river to get rid of a pack of poetry.✓

(1) POSSESSIVE CASE OF NOUN.

i. The possessive case is used with the names of living thing things as

ii. Minister's meeting

iii. Camel's hump

(2) FOR NON LIVING NOUNS

i. The leg of the table [not, the table's leg]

ii. The cover of the book [not, the book's cover],

iii. The roof of the house [not, the house's roof]

(3) But the Possessive is used with the names of personified* objects; as

i. Pakistan's heroes

ii. Nature's laws

iii. Fortune's favorite

iv. At duty's call

v. At death's door

(4) The Possessive is also used with nouns denoting time, space or weight distance; as

i. A day's march

ii. A week's holiday

iii. In a year's time

iv. A stone's throw

- v. A foot's length
- vi. A pound's weight

(5) The following phrases are also in common use:

- i. At his fingers' ends
- ii. For mercy's sake
- iii. To his heart's content
- iv. At his wit's end
- v. A boat's crew

(1) The possessive of a proper name or of noun denoting a trade, profession, or relationship may be used to denote a building or place of business (church, house, school college, shop, hospital, theatre, etc.); as,

- i. She has gone to the baker's (= baker's shop).
- ii. Tonight I am dining at my uncle's (= uncle's house)
- iii. Can you tell me the way to St. Paul's (= St. Paul's church)?
- iv. I attend the Town High School but my cousin attends St. Xavier's.
- v. He was educated at St. Joseph's.

When the noun is Singular, the Possessive Case is formed by adding's to the noun; as

- i. The boy's book.
- ii. The king's crown.

Note.-The letter s is omitted in a few words where too many hissing sounds would come together; as:

- i. For conscience sake
- ii. For goodness sake
- iii. For justice' sake
- iv. For Jesus' sake
- v. For Moses' laws

(2) When the noun is Plural, and ends in s, the Possessive Case is formed by adding:

- i. Boys' school
- ii. Girls' school
- iii. Horses' tails

(3) When the noun is Plural but does not end in s, the Possessive sign is formed by adding's as

- i. Men's club
- ii. Children's books

(4) When a noun or a title consists of several words, the Possessive sign is attached only to the last word; as,

- i. The King of Bhutan's visit.
- ii. The Prime Minister of Mauritius's speech.

(5) When two nouns are closely connected, the possession sign is put to the latter; as,

- i. Karim and Salim's bakery
- ii. William and Mary's reign.

(6) For separate possession must be as,

- i. Ashfaq's and Altaf Fatima's novels
- ii. Goldsmith's and Cowper's poems