

UHL2400 FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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NOUNS

More on Nouns

Singular Noun

Refers to a noun that names **ONE** :

- Person
- Place
- Thing
- Idea

The *pencil* is not sharp enough.

Plural Noun

Refers to a noun that names **more than one**:

- Person
- Place
- Thing
- Idea

The *trees* are falling one by one.



#1

add s to a singular noun.

Examples:

Toy, toys, bird, birds, cup, cups, machine, machines, river, rivers



#2

add **es** to nouns ending in **s, z, x, sh, ch.**

Examples:

Address, addresses, watch, watches, fox,
foxes, quiz, quizzes, dish, dishes.



#3

change **y** to **ies** to nouns ending in a
consonant followed by **y**.

Examples:

Activity, activities, lorry, lorries, pony,
ponies, theory, theories, sky, skies

#4

Add **s** to nouns ending in a vowel followed
by **y**

Examples:

Day, days, toy, toys, donkey, donkeys,
essay, essays, guy, guys



#5

Add **es** to nouns ending in a consonant followed by **o**

Examples:

Tomato, tomatoes, echo, echoes, cargo, cargoes, hero, heroes



#6

Change **f** or **fe** to **ves** for nouns ending in **f**
or **fe**

Examples:

Elf, elves, self, selves, thief, thieves, knife,
knives, wife, wives, life, lives

#6 Exceptions

Chef, chefs, giraffe, girraffes, proof, proofs,
roof, roofs



Observe:

Irregular plurals:

Foot, feet, cactus, cacti, man, men, child,
children, phenomenon, phenomena,
mouse, mice, criterion, criteria, ox, oxen



Observe:

Nouns that has no singular form

Trousers, glasses, measles, clothes,
goggles, pants, scissors, electronics,
mathematics



Observe:

Compound nouns – the first word is changed to plural

Son-in-law, sons-in-law, secretary of state, secretaries of state