

Lesson 9: Singular and Plural Nouns

LEARN

- Nouns can be singular or plural. A **singular noun** names one person, place, or thing. A **plural noun** names more than one person, place, or thing.

SINGULAR I visited an **exhibit** at the county fair.

PLURAL I visited three **exhibits** at the county fair.

- Follow these rules to make plural nouns.

- Add **-s** to most singular nouns.

SINGULAR	bird	bee	flower	vegetable
PLURAL	birds	bees	flowers	vegetables

- Add **-es** when a singular noun ends in **s, ss, ch, sh, or x**.

SINGULAR	bus	dress	porch	dish	ax
PLURAL	buses	dresses	porches	dishes	axes

- When a singular noun ends in a vowel and **y**, add **-s**.

SINGULAR	boy	key	holiday
PLURAL	boys	keys	holidays

- When a singular noun ends in a consonant and **y**, change the **y** to **i** and add **-es**.

SINGULAR	lady	family	cherry
PLURAL	ladies	families	cherries



PRACTICE

A

Write the plural form of each noun.

- | | | | |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|
| 1. wish | <u>wishes</u> | 6. celebration | <u>celebrations</u> |
| 2. bunny | <u>bunnies</u> | 7. guess | <u>guesses</u> |
| 3. patch | <u>patches</u> | 8. song | <u>songs</u> |
| 4. donkey | <u>donkeys</u> | 9. party | <u>parties</u> |
| 5. tax | <u>taxes</u> | 10. fox | <u>foxes</u> |

B Write the plural form of the noun in parentheses to complete each sentence.

1. Many counties in our state hold fairs each summer. (county)
2. Different farm groups help pay for the events. (group)
3. Tourists arrive in cars and buses. (bus)
4. The events at the fair are always interesting. (event)
5. Some businesses sell products to the visitors. (business)
6. Boxes of prize-winning fruits and vegetables fill one building. (box)
7. The apples and peaches always look delicious. (peach)
8. You can sample the homemade jams and jellies. (jelly)
9. Glasses of fresh-squeezed juice are on sale, too. (glass)
10. Sandwiches made with local cheeses are popular. (sandwich)
11. Most children and babies love the animal exhibits. (baby)
12. Horses and ponies fill one huge barn. (pony)
13. Visitors look at the colorful chickens and turkeys. (turkey)
14. The best cows and sheep win blue ribbons for prizes. (prize)
15. We look forward to the fair for months. (month)








C Ron wrote this report. He made nine mistakes when writing nouns. Sometimes he misspelled plural nouns. At other times he used a plural noun for a singular noun or a singular noun for a plural noun. Use the proofreading marks to correct these mistakes.

Remember

If a noun ends in *s*, *ss*, *ch*, *sh*, or *x*, add *-es* to form the plural.

If a noun ends in a consonant and *y*, change the *y* to *i*, and add *-es* to form the plural.

Proofreading Marks

-  Add
-  Period
-  Take out
-  Capital letter
-  Small letter

Many ^{communities} ~~communities~~ today celebrate *Cinco de Mayo*. These words are Spanish for the "Fifth of May." On May 5, 1862, the Mexican army defeated a much larger French army. The Mexican people were proud of this important victory, and the day became a ^{holiday} ~~holidays~~.

Cinco de Mayo celebrates Mexican history and culture. In some large ^{cities} ~~city~~, ^{officials} ~~official~~ organize a big fiesta, or festival. In Los Angeles almost a million residents attend. ^{Boys} ~~Boy~~ and girls in colorful ^{costumes} ~~costumes~~ perform folk dances. Bands play traditional music. Different ^{businesses} ~~business~~ prepare Mexican ^{dishes} ~~dish~~ for the crowd. Parades are also usually part of the big day.

Cinco de Mayo is a great way for ^{families} ~~family~~ and neighbors to remember their heritage and have fun, too!



Did you correct nine mistakes with nouns?





WRITE



Singular and plural nouns can appear in the subject or the predicate of a sentence. Sometimes you can combine two related sentences by joining the nouns. Use the conjunction *and* or *or* to join the nouns.

Cowboys ride in the rodeo.

Cowgirls ride in the rodeo.

Cowboys **and** cowgirls ride in the rodeo.

The rodeo will take place in the United States.

The rodeo will take place in Canada.

The rodeo will take place in the United States **or** Canada.

D Combine each pair of sentences by joining nouns in the subject or predicate. Use the conjunction in parentheses to join the nouns.

1. Rodeo is based on traditions from the United States. Rodeo is based on traditions from Mexico. (and) _____

Rodeo is based on traditions from the United States and Mexico.

2. The events developed from chores on ranches. The events developed from activities on ranches. (and) _____

The events developed from chores and activities on ranches.

3. Rodeo riders enter contests. Rodeo riders enter races. (or) _____

Rodeo riders enter contests or races.

4. The cowboys might perform first. The cowgirls might perform first. (or) _____

The cowboys or cowgirls might perform first.

5. Audiences enjoy the action. Audiences enjoy the excitement. (and) _____

Audiences enjoy the action and excitement.



Look back at the sentences you wrote. Underline the nouns you joined in the subject or predicate.