

# GRAMMAR

## STD-VI

**SUBJECT : ENGLISH**  
**CHAPTER NUMBER: 2**  
**PERIOD NUMBER : 1**  
**CHAPTER NAME :NOUNS-NUMBER**

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**CHANGING YOUR TOMORROW**

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# EXPECTED LEARNING OUTCOMES

## **General Objective: -**

1. Students will understand the meaning of nouns.
2. They will learn different types of nouns.
3. They will learn the ways in which they work in sentences.

## **Specific or Extended objectives: -**

1. identification of nouns as the names of things and the ways these function in sentences
2. identification of singular and plural nouns

**The Plural nouns that are formed without following any rule are called irregular plurals**

**A few nouns form their plural by changing the inside vowel of the singular; as,**

man, men;

woman, women;

foot, feet;

tooth, teeth;

goose, geese;

mouse, mice;

louse, lice.

**There are a few nouns that form their plural by adding -en to the singular;**

as, ox, oxen; child, children.

The plural of fish is fish or fishes. The form fishes is less usual.

**Some nouns have the singular and the plural alike; as,**

Swine, sheep, deer; cod, trout, salmon; aircraft, spacecraft, series, species.

Pair, dozen, score, gross, hundred, thousand (when used after numerals),

I bought three dozen oranges.

Some nouns are used only in the plural.

(1) Names of instruments which have two parts forming a kind of pair; as,  
Bellows, scissors, tongs, pincers, spectacles.

(2) Names of certain articles of dress; as,  
Trousers, drawers, breeches, jeans, tights, shorts, pyjamas.

The following nouns look plural but are in fact singular:

(1) Names of subjects

mathematics, physics, electronics, etc.

(2) The word news

(3) Names of some common diseases

measles, mumps, rickets

(4) Names of some games

billiards, draughts

Mathematics is his favourite study.

No news is good news.

India won by an innings and three runs.

Measles is infectious.

Billiards is my favourite game.

## Singular -- Plural

Commander-in-chief -- commanders-in-chief

Coat-of-mail -- coats-of-mail

Son-in-Law -- sons-in-law

Daughter-in-law -- daughters-in-law

Step-son -- step-sons

Step-daughter -- step-daughters

Maid-servant -- maid-servants (but man-servant, plural men-servants)

Passer-by -- passers-by

Looker-on -- lookers-on

Man-of-war -- men-of-war.

# Singular -- Plural

- The plural form of some nouns is completely different from their singular form. For example, *child – children, goose – geese, mouse\* – mice, etc.*
- \*The plural of *mouse* is *mouses* when it refers to the computer device.
- Some words such as *deer, aircraft, moose, hair\*, fish\** have the same singular and plural forms.

\*We can also make their plural forms in the following way:

*There are different kinds of fishes in the pond.* (Plural to indicate a variety)

*My father has five grey hairs.* (Plural to indicate a number)

## Here are a few more points to remember about singular and plural nouns.

- Sometimes proper nouns can have plural forms. For example, if there are three students in a class by the name John, we can say *the three Johns in the class.*
- Some collective nouns appear singular, but they are plural in meaning and usage such as *cattle, police, cavalry, people\*, clergy, gentry and poultry.*
- \*We can use *peoples* to indicate people of different ethnicities.
- Nouns denoting a specific quantity or amount are considered singular. For example, *five dozen bananas, two hundred rupees, one thousand people, thirty million men, two kilometres, etc.* However, we can use them as plural nouns too.

### Examples:

*Dozens of bananas were sold.*

*Hundreds of birds gathered on the rooftop.*

- Nouns made of paired items are considered plural. For example, *jeans, pants, binoculars, glasses, spectacles, tongs, socks, trousers and scissors.* Generally, we use such words with *a pair of.* For example, *Nishant bought a pair of jeans and four pairs of shorts.*
- Some nouns do not have a singular form. For example, *valuables, belongings, eatables, wages, luggage, alms, innings, mathematics and measles.*
- Nouns such as *petrol, gold, butter, iron, milk, silk, cotton, wood\*, paper\*, water and cheese* do not have a plural form.
- \*We can use *woods* for different varieties of wood or for forest; *papers* for documents; and *waters* for water in a particular river, lake or ocean.
- Abstract nouns such as *wisdom, kindness and satisfaction* are uncountable and thus do not have plural forms. However, some abstract nouns can have plural forms.

# Singular -- Plural

## Examples:

*The mountaineer encountered several difficulties on her way down.*  
*The students have high hopes of scoring good marks this time.*  
*Everyone appreciated his innovative ideas and management skills.*  
*I have had bad experiences of telling lies.*

- Compound words form their plurals by adding -s to the principal noun or changing the principal noun itself. For example, *sister-in-law* - *sisters-in-law*, *man-of-war* - *men-of-war*, *stepfather* - *stepfathers*, etc. However, there are some exceptions to this rule such as *cupful* - *cupfuls* and *grown-up* - *grown-ups*.
- Many words in English have been borrowed from other languages. The following table shows words from languages such as Greek and Latin with their plural forms. Words with asterisk (\*) have different plurals in English and Latin.

Singular	Plural *	Singular	Plural (English/Latin)
agendum	agenda	focus*	focuses/foci
appendix	appendices	index*	indexes/indices
curriculum	curricula	stadium*	stadiums/stadia
formula	formulae	syllabus*	syllabuses/syllabi
criterion	criteria	antenna*	antennas/antennae
phenomenon	phenomena	gymnasium*	gymnasiums/gymnasia

\*Some of the words such as *appendix* and *curriculum* have other plural forms also.



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