

## more about countable and uncountable nouns

For an introduction to countable and uncountable nouns, and some basic exercises, see page 147.

Countable nouns are words like *car, book, chair*. They can be singular or plural.  
Uncountable nouns are words like *petrol, rice, water*. They are only singular.

### Revision. Circle the uncountable nouns.

cup dog flower guitar love meat music ear oil photo  
salt snow sugar women wool river

The following words are uncountable in English (but countable in some other languages). They are normally only singular, and we cannot use a/an with them. (NOT a travel, a furniture)  
advice baggage bread furniture hair information knowledge luck luggage  
news spaghetti (and macaroni etc) travel work money progress experience  
This furniture is too expensive. His hair is very long. Travel teaches you a lot.

### Put a with the countable nouns and some with the uncountable nouns.

..... bread ..... cheque ..... baggage ..... fridge ..... furniture  
..... handbag ..... holiday ..... knowledge ..... luck  
..... newspaper ..... problem ..... station ..... travel ..... work

### Put in suitable uncountable nouns from the box.

advice baggage furniture information news spaghetti travel work

- Can you give me some ..... about the school?
- 'Have you got much .....?' 'No, just one small bag.'
- I live 50 kilometres from my work, so I spend a lot of money on .....
- This ..... isn't very good. You cooked it for too long.
- I've stopped reading the papers. The ..... is always bad.
- I don't know what to do. Can you give me some .....?
- All this ..... is from my mother's house.
- I've got too much ..... and not enough free time.

To give a countable meaning, we usually use a longer expression or a different word.  
Can you give me a piece of advice? Did you have a good journey?

### Put in words or expressions from the box.

a piece of advice a piece of baggage a piece of information a piece of news a job a journey

- a suitcase .....
- selling newspapers .....
- driving from London to Edinburgh .....
- 'Don't marry him, dear.' .....
- 'The next train leaves at 10.15.' .....
- 'There has been a big train crash.' .....

## 190 NOUNS

## Uncountable nouns

### Test it

#### 1 Circle the best option, A or B.

- Experts predict a rise in the price of .....  
A petrol B petrols
- Did you hear .....?  
A B a
- Rice ..... good for you.  
A is B are
- John has too much ..... to do.  
A works B work
- Can I get ..... here?  
A an B
- The spaghetti you cooked ..... delicious!  
A tastes B taste
- He uses the London tube every day so he spends a lot on .....  
A travel B travels
- We've got ..... good news for you.  
A B B
- Money ..... buy you love.  
A don't B doesn't
- Please be quiet! You're making too much .....  
A noise B noise
- Petrick's got ..... blond hair and blue eyes.  
A B B

#### 2 Think the correct sentence in each pair.

- Milk is healthier than cream.  
Milk are healthier than cream.
- Three coffees, please.  
Three coffees, please.
- Where can I get information about the city?  
Where can I get informations about the city?
- This job advert says you need an experience.  
This job advert says you need experience.
- Oil float in water.  
Oil floats in water.
- Do you enjoy listening to music?  
Do you enjoy listening to a music?

## Uncountable nouns

### Test it again

#### 1 Complete the sentences. Use a word from the list and a where necessary.

- happiness work water coffee music travel furniture luck  
journey tea money
- Mozart was writing ..... from the age of 3.
  - ..... is expensive these days. This chair costs £150.
  - Carla only drinks mineral ..... She never drinks anything else.
  - I wish you ..... for your exams.
  - ..... isn't important. You can't buy happiness.
  - ..... grows in India and China.
  - What is .....? It's difficult to describe.
  - Susanna went on ..... from Canada to Mexico.
  - I'd like ..... and a slice of cake, please.
  - Nick's got ..... to do so he can't come tonight.
  - Christine spends £500 on ..... every year.

#### 2 Find and correct ten mistakes.

- I need moneys so I'm looking for a job. This advert says you must have an experience of working in an office and that you will make a progress if you are good at using a computer. I want an information about the salary but it doesn't say anything about pay.

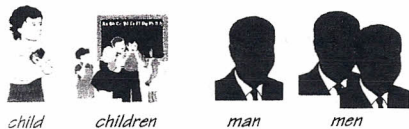
- We'd like an orange juice and two coffee, please.  
Certainly, would you like a milk and sugar?
- SHOPPING  
an orange juice  
teas  
milks  
butter  
bread  
fruits  
water  
a coffee



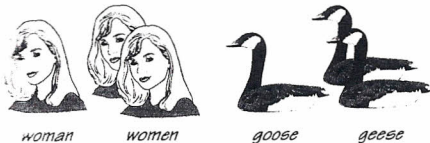
## Plurals/Countable Nouns - Uncountable Nouns

## Irregular Plurals

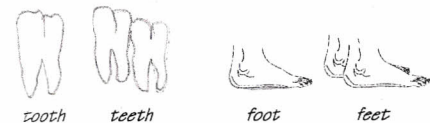
Some nouns are irregular. For example:



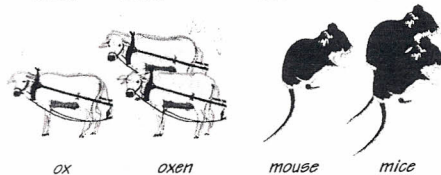
child children man men



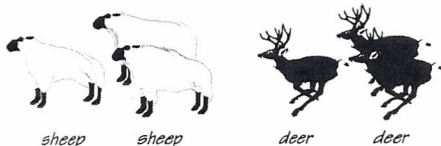
woman women goose geese



tooth teeth foot feet



ox oxen mouse mice

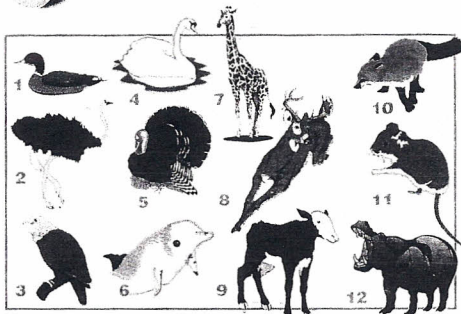


sheep sheep deer deer

## 2 Write the plural.

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 sheep ... <i>sheep</i> ... | 11 policeman ..... |
| 2 baby .....                 | 12 raspberry ..... |
| 3 child .....                | 13 sandwich .....  |
| 4 green leaf .....           | 14 mouse .....     |
| 5 old lady .....             | 15 photo .....     |
| 6 radio .....                | 16 cliff .....     |
| 7 ox .....                   | 17 pen .....       |
| 8 tall woman .....           | 18 watch .....     |
| 9 knife .....                | 19 big foot .....  |
| 10 toy .....                 | 20 nice book ..... |

## 3 Write the plural.



- |                             |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 duck ... <i>ducks</i> ... | 7 giraffe ..... |
| 2 ostrich .....             | 8 deer .....    |
| 3 parrot .....              | 9 calf .....    |
| 4 swan .....                | 10 fox .....    |
| 5 turkey .....              | 11 mouse .....  |
| 6 dolphin .....             | 12 hippo .....  |

## 4 Write the words in plural in the correct box.

bicycle, bus, cherry, knife, man, glass, child, house, apple, box, baby, ball, tomato, ferry, leaf, tooth, goose, radio, cliff, dress, torch, city, wife, ox, deer, calf, fox, giraffe, watch, parrot, lady, wolf, dish, boy, woman, melon, sheep, armchair

-s *bicycles,*

-es *buses,*

-ies *cherries,*

-ves *knives,*

irregular *men,*



## 2 Write the masculine or the feminine to the following nouns

husband, son, widower, groom, actor, monk, king, steward, woman, aunt, lady, heroine, waitress, princess, sister-in-law

## Exercise 14 Choose the correct form:

Vyberte správný tvar:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. There <i>are</i> a lot of clocks in the shop-window. (is - are) | 6. .... all the stoves in order? (is - are) |
| 2. .... your watch right? (is - are)                               | 7. My back ..... (hurts - hurt)             |
| 3. Open your ..... please. (mouth - mouths)                        | 8. Leave both ..... open. (door - doors)    |
| 4. .... it your sledge? (is - are)                                 | 9. This ..... today's newspaper. (is - are) |
| 5. Not all newspapers ..... serious. (is - are)                    | 10. The door ..... shut. (is - are)         |

## Exercise 6 Put in the plural:

Dajte do množného čísla:

1. There is a tomato on the plate. *There are tomatoes on the plate.*
2. A hero behaves bravely. ....
3. Have you got a photo of your family? ....
4. That potato is bad. ....
5. A piano can be very expensive. ....
6. A Negro is called Afro-American now. ....
7. Did you like that disco? ....
8. Have they got a child? ....
9. A tomato comes from America. ....

d) man - men	woman - women	Englishwoman - Englishwomen	foot - feet	mouse - mice
louse - lice	goose - geese	tooth - teeth		

## Exercise 7 Put in the plural:

Dajte do množného čísla:

1. The cat caught a mouse. *The cats caught mice.*
2. A goose crossed the road. ....
3. He lost a tooth in a fight. ....
4. Wash your dirty foot. ....
5. He works as a postman. ....

## Exercise 22 Add an article where necessary:

Doplňte člen, kde je to potrebné:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. It's <i>a</i> pity you couldn't come in ..... time.            | 7. .... time is ..... money.                                  |
| 2. I was born in ..... summer, in ..... July.                     | 8. .... football is ..... summer game. .... ice-hockey        |
| 3. What ..... languages do you speak, ..... is ..... winter game. |   |
| English or ..... German?  | 9. .... waiter. .... bill, please!                            |
| 4. .... building was built of ..... steel and ..... glass.        | 10. I prefer ..... mineral water to ..... lemonade.           |
| 5. .... father is two ..... years older than ..... mother.        | 11. .... Prague is ..... large city.                          |
| 6. Will you come on ..... Tuesday or on ..... Wednesday?          | 12. Before I go to ..... France. I plan to visit ..... Italy. |

## Exercise 23 Add an article where necessary:

Doplňte člen, kde je to potrebné:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Trains from ..... Europe come to ..... Victoria Station.                | 6. I don't usually have ..... lunch at ..... home.         |
| 2. On ..... way to ..... school we passed ..... hospital and ..... church. | 7. There was ..... knock on ..... door late at ..... night |
| 3. Did you see her ..... face to ..... face?                               | 8. Come to ..... club after ..... work                     |
|  | 9. He fell in ..... love with ..... attractive girl.       |