

## Countable Nouns – Plural Forms

girls, buses, pianos...

- ♦ A maioria dos substantivos é contável, isto é, tem uma forma no singular e outra no plural.  
The **girl** is waiting for the bus.  
Three **girls** are waiting for the bus.
- ♦ De maneira geral, faz-se o plural acrescentando-se **s** ao substantivo.  
table – tables  
boy – boys  
computer – computers  
book – books
- ♦ Substantivos terminados em **s, ss, ch, sh, x, z** e a maioria dos substantivos terminados em **o** recebem **es** no final.  
bus – buses  
church – churches  
brush – brushes  
box – boxes  
class – classes  
quiz – quizzes  
potato – potatoes  
hero – heroes

Porém, acrescenta-se apenas **s** aos substantivos a seguir:

photo – photos  
radio – radios  
piano – pianos  
kilo – kilos  
video – videos  
avocado – avocados

**Obs:** Alguns substantivos possuem as duas formas de plural:

mosquito – mosquitos, mosquito**es**  
volcano – volcano**s**, volcano**es**

- ♦ Troca-se o **y** final por **ies** quando ele for precedido de consoante.  
lady – ladies  
sky – skies  
body – bodies

- ♦ Alguns substantivos terminados em **f** ou **fe** trocam essas letras por **ves**.

calf – calves  
life – lives  
shelf – shelves  
half – halves  
loaf – loaves  
thief – thieves  
leaf – leaves  
wolf – wolves  
wife – wives  
knife – knives

**Obs:** Existem ainda substantivos que fazem o plural das duas formas:

dwarf – dwarfs, dwar**ves**  
scarf – scarfs, scar**ves**  
hoof – hoofs, hoov**es**

- ♦ Alguns substantivos emprestados de outros idiomas conservam o plural de origem:

medium – media  
bacterium – bacteria  
crisis – crisi**es**  
nucleus – nucle**i**

- Plurais irregulares:

man – men  
woman – women  
mouse – mice  
foot – feet  
tooth – teeth  
child – children  
person – people

- Substantivos com a mesma forma no singular e no plural:

deer – deer  
fish – fish  
sheep – sheep  
species – species



es

ies

ves

other

policemen

children

women

sheep

teeth

dwarfs



**Example:** I spoke to a **woman**. I spoke to two women.

1. I put the **book** on the **shelf**. I put the books on the shelves.
2. He saw the **mouse** under the **chair**. He saw the mice under the chairs.
3. Look at the **sheep** in the **field**. Look at the sheep in the field
4. Can you see **that** beautiful **baby**? Can you see those beautiful babies?
5. Be careful of the **knife**! Be careful of the knives!
6. His **tooth** is broken. His teeth is broken.
7. My **foot** hurts. My feet hurts.
8. I had to buy the **dress** for my **daughter**. I had to buy the dresses for my daughters.

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## Special Plural Forms

politics, people...

- ◆ Alguns substantivos só existem no singular, embora terminem em s.

**news – politics – Mathematics – Physics – Economics – genetics – electronics**

Politics **is** a controversial subject.

- ◆ Outros substantivos parecem estar no singular, mas são sempre usados com verbos no plural:

**people – police – cattle**

People **want** to see the best team.

The police **are** looking for the criminal.

- ◆ Algumas palavras só existem no plural e sempre concordam com verbos no plural.

As mais usadas são:

**clothes – belongings – savings – contents – outskirts – surroundings – headquarters – earnings**

My clothes **are** in the washing machine.

- ◆ Substantivos que indicam nomes de vestimentas ou objetos com duas partes iguais só existem no plural:

**glasses – trousers – jeans – shorts – pants – pajamas – scissors**

My glasses **are** on the table.

Jeans **are** expensive.

Com esses substantivos, também pode ser usada a expressão **a pair of**.

Can you lend me **a pair of** scissors?

I need **a new pair of** jeans.

- ◆ Substantivos coletivos (*collective nouns*) podem ser seguidos de verbos no singular ou no plural.

His family **is** very big.

His family **are** all very tall.

Manchester United **is** a popular team.

Manchester United **are** at the top of the league.



### I. Underline the correct alternatives.

**Example:** The news (are / is) all good recently.

1. Physics (is / are) a fascinating subject.
2. My glasses (is / are) on the table.
3. All my savings (is / are) in the bank.
4. The police (is / are) investigating the case.
5. People (is / are) always worried about the future.
6. The government headquarters (is / are) on the outskirts of town.
7. His trousers (are / is) too big for him.
8. All my belongings (is / are) in my suitcase.

Remember! Don't mention politics, religion or football and they will love you!





II. Put the letters in the correct order to form names of objects.

Example: a pair of SROSSICS a pair of scissors.

1. a pair of ENAJS a pair of jeans
2. a pair of SETRUOSR a pair of trousers
3. a pair of SORTSH a pair of shorts
4. a pair of SMJAPAA a pair of pajamas
5. a pair of EHSOS a pair of shoes
6. a pair of OKSCS a pair of socks
7. a pair of OVLGSE a pair of gloves



III. Complete the sentences using the collective nouns below.

government team crowd company family audience gang army

1. Which is the best football team in your country?
2. I live in São Paulo, but my family lives in the Northeast of Brazil.
3. The army is preparing an attack on the enemy.
4. The government is meeting today to decide the laws.
5. Police arrested a gang yesterday. They are accused of robbery and bribery.
6. The company is investing two million dollars in the project.
7. The audience is singing with the band.
8. The crowd is waiting for the store to open.



IV. Read the text below. There are mistakes in some of the sentences.

(a) Check (✓) the correct sentences.

(b) Underline and correct the mistakes in the other sentences.

Example: Economics were his best subject at university.

1. I met a very interesting man on the train. He was wearing a glasses. ( was )
2. In two hours, I learnt a lot about him. Physics was his main subject at university. ( a pair of )
3. He even wrote a book about it. His earnings from the book was very small. ( were )
4. He certainly looked poor. His glasses were broken. His clothes was all old. ( were )
5. He said he didn't care about his surroundings. The news weren't of interest ( wasn't )  
to him. People was of no interest either. ( were )

# Countable and Uncountable Nouns

QUANTIFIER

a train, some advice

## ◆ Substantivos contáveis.

- Em inglês, a maioria dos substantivos é contável: eles podem ser usados tanto no singular quanto no plural.

train → trains    girl → girls    dog → dogs

## ◆ Substantivos incontáveis.

- Alguns substantivos são incontáveis e só podem ser usados no singular:

air – water – information – advice –  
food – electricity – money

- Substantivos incontáveis frequentemente indicam:

substâncias: food, water, iron

qualidades humanas: courage, cruelty, honesty

atividades: help, travel, work

ideias abstratas: beauty, freedom, life

- Substantivos contáveis podem ser precedidos por artigos indefinidos ou definidos.

a train, the train, the trains

a girl, the girl, the girls

- Substantivos incontáveis podem ser precedidos de **the**, **some**, **any**, **much** e expressões como **a piece of**, **a loaf of**, **a bottle of**.

The water is dirty.

Let me give you some advice.

He doesn't have much money.

Do you need any information?

I want a piece of advice.

Can you buy a loaf of bread?

Ver Unidades 6 e 38, páginas 22 e 92.



## I. Complete these sentences with the singular or plural form of the verbs in parentheses.

**Example:** The buses are late today. (is / are)

- The children are leaving for school. (is leaving / are leaving)
- My brother is in the army. (is / are)
- The mice are eating the cheese. (is eating / are eating)
- The address on the letter is wrong. (is / are)
- Sheep are typical farm animals. (is / are)
- There are some food in the cupboard. (is / are)
- Travel is always exciting. (is / are)
- They say "work is good for the soul." (are / is)
- The train is leaving the station right now. (is leaving / are leaving)
- The advice she gives is usually good advice. (are / is)





III Look at the words in bold and write C (countable) or U (uncountable).

Example: (U) I need a piece of **advice**. Can you help me?

1. (C) The **people** are arriving at five o'clock.
2. (U) The Northeast of Brazil needs more **water**.
3. (U) Our **work** is very interesting.
4. (C) The **children** are not at school today. They are on vacation.
5. (U) He doesn't have much **money**, but he is happy.
6. (U) **Life** is good.
7. (C) Those **women** are my aunts.
8. (C) Our **computers** are very expensive.
9. (C) Does the **hotel** have large rooms?
10. (U) Can you give me some **information**, please?



III Use these uncountable nouns to complete the sentences below.

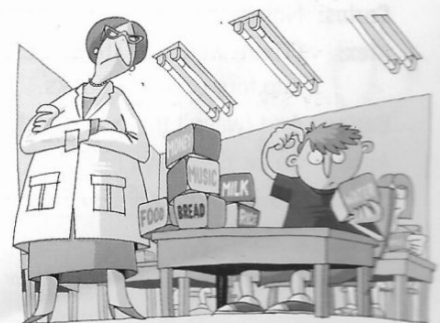
traffic    information    help    equipment    electricity    happiness    work    advice

1. Excuse me! Can you give me some information about train schedules?
2. Why don't you leave home earlier? The traffic is always very bad at this time.
3. My work is very interesting but the salary is bad.
4. This equipment isn't working. Let's call the technician to repair it.
5. Do you use gas or electricity to cook your meals?
6. Please feel free to call me, if you need any advice.
7. If you want my help, you should start all over again.
8. Happiness is an elusive quality.

IV Complete the sentences with *a(n)*, *some*, *any*, *much*, *a piece of*.

Example: I need a piece of information.

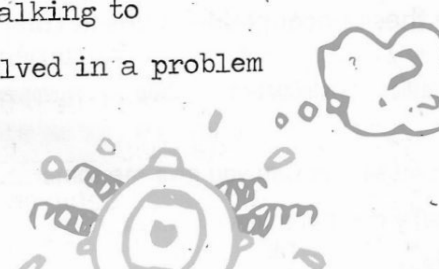
1. Do you need some help?
2. Can you give me a piece of advice?
3. I am buying a furniture for my new house.
4. I like to have a loaf of bread for breakfast.
5. Would you like a bottle of coffee?
6. I need to put some oil in my car.
7. I'm thirsty. Can I have some water?
8. Can you give me a paper?
9. The scientists are doing an interesting research.
10. He isn't ? help, to tell you the truth.



## Progress Check

1. Read the text once, quickly, to get the general idea. Then underline all the *possessive adjectives* and *pronouns*. You should find nine.

I'm mad at my friend Janice. The other day, I showed her my composition and later I found out that she'd simply copied it!! Our teacher, Mr. Swan, thought that the composition was hers and not mine! When I told him what had happened, he said that it wasn't his problem. When other friends of mine tried to help by talking to Mr. Swan, he said that they shouldn't get involved in a problem that isn't theirs! I had a huge argument with Janice and she finally confessed that the composition was, in fact, mine!



Source: *Graded English*. Amos, Prescher and Pasqualin. Moderna, 2006.

2. Read the text and choose the appropriate grammatical form to complete the dialog between Carlos and Alex.

**Carlos:** The movie we saw last night wasn't very good. It was all about life in a small town like ours here.

**Alex:** So?

**Carlos:** (There wasn't / There are / There weren't) any point to the story, to tell you the truth. Why would anyone want to know what life is like in a place like this? (There are / There's / There isn't) ever anything exciting going on round here<sup>1</sup>.

**Alex:** You obviously didn't hear what happened yesterday downtown then, did you?

**Carlos:** No! What?

**Alex:** (There weren't / There are / There was) a series of robberies in the afternoon! Three armed robbers broke into four different banks.

**Carlos:** And (wasn't there / aren't there / won't there be) any clues<sup>2</sup> for the police to find out who the robbers were?

**Alex:** So far they have no idea.

**Carlos:** Wow! (There will be / There is / There was) more going on here yesterday than at the movies then!!

<sup>1</sup> going on round here = *acontecendo por aqui*

<sup>2</sup> clues = *pistas*



3. Quickly read the text to understand the general idea. Then underline the correct *demonstrative pronoun* given in parentheses.

Take a look here! (This / These / Those) is my high school photo album. (This / These / That) three men were my teachers. (This / These / Those) one on the left was Mr. Peters. He was an excellent teacher. Everybody in the school loved him. (That / Those / This) woman on the right is Ms. Winslett, the principal. Look at (that / these / this) other four pictures. (That / These / This) are my parents and (these / that / those) little girl is my sister when she was three! She was so cute. Can you believe Mr. Peters is her teacher now! (That / This / These) last one is our summer vacation ten years ago. Can you guess which one is me?

Source: *Challenge*. Amos, Prescher and Pasqualin. Richmond Publishing, 2006.

4. Read the article once and then complete the text. Use *a / an* or *Ø* (no article).

# Heaven and Hell

Almost everyone has an wish, but not many people are able to make their wishes come true<sup>1</sup>. Once in ancient China, a man had a strange wish. "I want to see the difference between - heaven and - hell before I die," he used to say. Then, one day, his wish came true. When he was visiting - hell he saw a table full of - delicious food, but everyone was hungry and angry. They had a food, but had to sit far from the table because they were forced to use very long chopsticks<sup>2</sup>. It was impossible for them to put any food into their mouths. When the man was visiting - heaven, he had a surprise. Everything looked the same: a big table full of - delicious food, people sitting far from the table, and using very long chopsticks to eat. It was exactly like a hell, but in heaven the people were happy and well-fed<sup>3</sup>. The difference is that in - heaven they have realized that a chain<sup>4</sup> does not stop you feeding<sup>5</sup> others!

- <sup>1</sup>make a wish come true = *realizar um desejo*
- <sup>2</sup>chopsticks = *hashi, pauzinhos*
- <sup>3</sup>well-fed = *bem alimentado*
- <sup>4</sup>chain = *corrente*
- <sup>5</sup>feed = *alimentar*

Source: *Graded English*. Amos, Prescher & Pasqualin. Moderna, 2006.



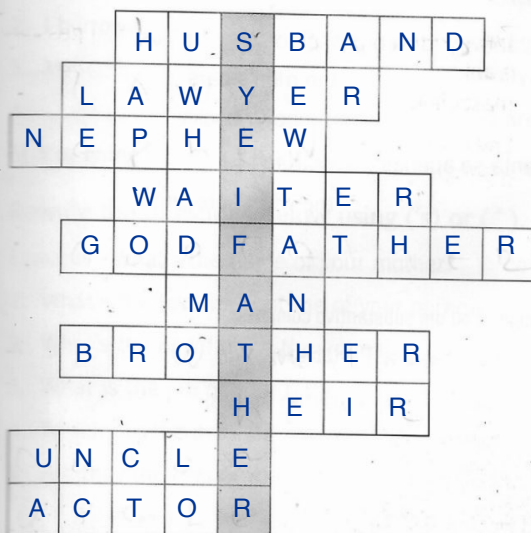


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Find the hidden word. Put the *masculine* form of the nouns below into the puzzle.

wife waitress lawyer niece godmother woman sister heiress aunt actress



wife  $\Rightarrow$  husband  
waitress  $\Rightarrow$  waiter  
lawyer  $\Rightarrow$  lawyer  
niece  $\Rightarrow$  nephew  
godmother  $\Rightarrow$  godfather  
woman  $\Rightarrow$  man  
sister  $\Rightarrow$  brother  
heiress  $\Rightarrow$  heir  
aunt  $\Rightarrow$  uncle  
actress  $\Rightarrow$  actor



Rewrite the sentences below using the *feminine form* for the words in *italics*.

Example: My *father* is waiting for his *brother*. My mother is waiting for her sister.

- The *actor* is sick. The actress is sick.
- He is the *heir* of all this land. She is the his of all this island
- He is a *waiter*. She is a waitress.
- The *Englishman* lives near that *boy*. The Englishwoman lives near that girl.
- The *king* is an old *man*. The queen is an old woman.
- These *men* are my *uncles*. This women are my aunt
- My *boyfriend* went shopping. My girlfriend went shopping
- My *son-in-law* is an *air-steward*. My daughter-in-law is a stewardess
- My *brother* is a successful *businessman*. My sister is a successful businesswoman.
- My *father-in-law* is an excellent cook. My mother-in-law is an excellent cook.
- Her *husband* works for my *uncle*. His wife works for my aunt.
- My *grandfather* lives in another city. My grandmother lives in another city